

NEWS FROM THE

Bridge

COVERING DELAWARE TOWNSHIP

VOL.11 No.2 2008

Historic Designation: Sergeantsville

The Historic Designation Subcommittee completed its door-to-door personal outreach to each resident and business in Sergeantsville that would be included in the Historic District. The Township Committee agreed to submit the official application in May for State review this year.

The next task for the Historic Designation Subcommittee is to conduct the same type of outreach to the residents of a potential Rosemont Historic District.

The Township is seeking historic designations for Sergeantsville and Rosemont for the following reasons: For public recognition of the district's historical, architectural, scenic and cultural significance; to protect the district from the encroachment of well meaning, but possibly ill-planned government (state, county, and municipal) projects that would damage or destroy the historic, architectural, and scenic nature of Sergeantsville and Rosemont; and to provide possible eligibility to apply for rehabilitation and restoration grants and loans as they become available.

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, please feel free to contact any member of the Subcommittee or Susan Lockwood at (609) 397-4265. The Historic Designation Subcommittee has generally been meeting the last Thursday of each month at the Town Hall. The public is welcome to attend.

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Primary Election Day

When: Tuesday, June 3, 2008

Where: Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company

Time: 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Terms Expiring:

12/31/08: Susan Lockwood and Kristin McCarthy

Local Vacancies: Two Township Committee positions.

Township Committee Primary Election Candidates:

Democrat: Susan Lockwood and Kristin McCarthy

Republican: Roger Locandro

This year there will also be elections for Democrat and Republican County Committee members. Voters may vote for one female candidate and one male candidate in their own voting district according to which political party they belong.

Please look for new layout when you come to vote. The voting machines are now on the Rt. 523 wall of the Fire House. Enter the ballroom and stay to the left to sign the voter book at your voting District table.

May 27 is the deadline for filing Civilian Absentee Ballot Applications by mail.

May 28 – June 3 by 3 p.m. File Civilian Absentee Ballot Applications in person at the Hunterdon County Clerk's office on Main Street in Flemington.

Voter registration and absentee ballot applications are available at the Township Building or on the web at www.co.hunterdon.nj.us and click on "Voter Registration and Information." The County mails you the actual absentee ballots. After marking your choices, you mail the ballot to the County Clerk in the envelope provided. You no longer need an excuse for an absentee ballot. Once you request an absentee ballot application, even if you did not mail or deliver the ballot, you are NOT permitted to vote in person at the Fire House.

If you are voting for the first time in Delaware Township, you may be asked to show a photo ID.

Voters whose records are not in the voting books may be asked to vote by Provisional Ballot. The County Board of Elections will check your registration at its office in Flemington.

A Guide to Healthy Habits for Cleaner Water

Pollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings—you name it; it ends up in our water. Stormwater pollution is one of New Jersey's greatest threats to clean and plentiful water, and that's why we are all doing something about it.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties.

Easy Things You Can Do Every Day to Protect Our Water

Limit your use of fertilizers and pesticides. Do a soil test to see if you need fertilizer. Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted. Look into alternatives for pesticides.

Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of you property in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that require little or no fertilizer. If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to correctly apply them. Make sure you properly store or dispose of any unused portions.

Properly Use and Dispose of Hazardous Products. Hazardous products include some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, antifreeze, and paints. Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are always connected to local waterbodies and the water is not treated. If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance. Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible. Recycle used motor oil. Contact your municipality, county, or facility management office for the location of hazardous waste disposal facilities.

Keep Pollution Out Of Storm Drains. Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies. Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

Clean Up After Your Pet. When left on the ground, pet waste is washed into storm drains that carry it to our rivers, lakes, the ocean, and drinking water. Animal waste contains a high concentration of nutrients as well as bacteria and disease-causing micro-organisms that can cause problems.

Municipalities are required to adopt and enforce local pet-waste laws. Remember to use newspaper, bags, or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes. Pet owners or anyone who takes your pet for a walk must dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash or unwrapped in a toilet. Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

Do not feed wildlife, such as ducks and geese in public areas. Many municipalities and other public agencies must enact and enforce rules prohibiting wildlife feeding in these areas.

Place litter in trash receptacles. Recycle. Recycle. Recycle. Participate in community cleanups.

Dispose of Yard Waste Properly. Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains. If your municipality has yard waste collection rules, follow them. Use leaf and grass clippings as a resource for compost. Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn.

For more information on stormwater related topics, visit www.njstormwater.org or www.nonpointsource.org. Additional information is also available at U.S. EPA websites www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater or www.epa.gov/nps.

Contact: NJ Dept. of Environmental Protection, Division of Water Quality, Bureau of Nonpoint Source Pollution Control, Municipal Stormwater Regulation Program (609) 633-7021

Grass Clippings

Mowing season is here. Please remember that a Township ordinance prohibits mowing or blowing grass clippings onto roads.

Zoning Review Committee

Public Meeting, June 19th, 7:30p.m.

The Zoning Review Committee (ZRC) will be presenting its findings of the Phase I review of current zoning and land use options to the Township Committee and Planning Board on June 19th at DTS school from 7:30 – 9:30. After an extensive 15 month process, the ZRC will provide officials with information regarding the possibility of implementing a transfer of density rights (TDR) program, highlighting sending/receiving areas, suggested changes to the base zoning, and discuss some other alternatives and creative land use ideas. The meeting is open to the public. It is hoped that many residents will be able to attend this very important meeting.

Conservation Easement Monitoring Group

A conservation easement is a legally enforceable promise to preserve some portion of open space on an individual's property to protect its natural, agricultural and scenic resources. Those who sell or donate easements continue to own their land and to control access to it.

Eric Knappe, who heads the easement monitoring efforts of the Delaware Township Environmental Commission (DTEC), notes that the New Jersey Conservation Foundation (NJCF) created a working group to help municipalities and nonprofit organizations track and monitor their conservation easements. Delaware Township is one of New Jersey's leading municipalities in this effort, and has been invited by NJCF to share its knowledge and experience with other municipalities who wish to begin similar initiatives.

Other DTEC members active in the Township's easement monitoring include Kathy Klink and Tony Szwed.

Eric notes that the DTEC's all-volunteer monitoring efforts include performing title searches, ensuring dedicated lands are not disturbed or built upon, protecting rare plant species, and monitoring excessive amounts of invasive plant species. Additionally, due to a change in IRS donation requirements, nonprofit organizations which own land dedicated to conservation easements may lose their favorable tax status if the easements are not properly monitored. These changes in the IRS rules will not affect private landowners who have conservation easements on their property.

NJCF consultant Maude Snyder notes that DTEC's easement monitoring program is quite exceptional. Of all the municipalities in New Jersey, NJCF is aware of only three who are trying to keep track of and monitor their easements: Delaware, Mendham, and Frelinghuysen. Most municipalities do not keep records of their conservation easements.

Pennsylvania Black Fly Suppression Program

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection notified the Township that it will be spraying this season for black flies, commonly known around here as gnats. Treatments are conducted in this area by the State of Pennsylvania DEP via helicopter application throughout the warm season along the Delaware River. Treatments only occur at riffle areas along the Delaware River. Treatments are determined by larval black fly populations in the river, rainfall, temperature, wind, adult black fly numbers, and other factors. Pennsylvania uses Vectobac, an insecticide product recommended for black fly control in New Jersey by Rutgers. It contains the soil bacterium "Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti), evaluated by the USEPA to be very slightly toxic with minimal potential risk to people when used properly as part of a complete control program. Vectobac acts on the larval or immature stage of the black fly in water before the flying adult emerges. Spraying for adult black flies is not effective. Follow common sense actions to reduce possible exposure risk. Limit outside activities during times of possible pesticide treatment. Avoid direct contact with water bodies that have been treated. Move children's toys out of application areas. Move animals and their food and water dishes out of application areas. Stay away from application equipment, whether or not it is in use." Note: The State of New Jersey has not funded any money for black fly spraying in many, many years. Thanks to Pennsylvania, Delaware Township residents can enjoy their back yards in the summer.

Sergeantsville Farmer's Market Opened

The Sergeantsville Farmers Market kicked off its fourth season on Saturday, May 10, 2008. Every Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to Noon, local farmers and vendors will sell "Hunterdon County's Community Bounty" which is everything from farm fresh eggs to fresh-picked asparagus and more.

The Market is located at the "Township Green" across the street from Township Hall at Routes 523 and 604.

Mickie Jacoby, who is this year's Market's chairperson says, "I encourage everyone to come out this year. We have a lot of great family and adult activities planned and some of the best farm fresh products and crafts around."

Currently there are about 18 Local Farmers and Vendors who will provide a variety of goods including eggs, cut flowers, sausage, pottery, embroidery, vegetables, fruits, herbs, plants, quilts, alpaca fiber and more!

Gunn Creek Farm has been coming to the Market since its inception. Mark Gunn says, "This is a great opportunity for us as farmers to sell our peaches and vegetables. And we have a great time meeting with our neighbors in a relaxed friendly atmosphere."

This year the Market hosted a contest for school age children to design the new Logo for the Market. Other special events include live music, and tasting events.

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

The 2008 State Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program begins on June 1st and is open to all county residents age 60 and over. The Program is run under federal guidelines that set eligible annual income levels for singles and for married couples. Four vouchers (\$5 each) are provided and must be used in

their entirety with no change given. You can use the vouchers to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables at State approved farm markets. Vouchers can be picked up at the Hunterdon County Senior Complex and at other locations in the county. Recipients must complete a brief program application, verify their income, and personally sign for vouchers received. To obtain information on income limits, to get answers to your questions, and to find out the locations of State approved farm markets, please contact Penny Folkner-Bush at the Division of Senior Services in Flemington at 908-788-1361 or send questions by email to aging@co.hunterdon.nj.us or see www.fns.usda.gov/wic.

Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead Open Sundays, 1:00-4:00 p.m.

The historic Holcombe-Jimison Farmstead is located in Delaware Township at 1605 Daniel Bray Highway (Rt. 29) just north of Lambertville. The Board of Trustees of the Farmstead is trying to make people aware of this fine museum of early farm life in the Hunterdon County area. In addition to the farm museum it also has a replica country store, a blacksmith shop, print shop, and a barber shop. In 2007 it added a new building, constructed to look like a corn crib, to house its collection of restored farm tractors and early style garden tractors.

The centerpiece of the Farmstead is the stone house once occupied by the Holcombe family and later by the Jimison family. The Board believes that it was constructed in 1711. This is the oldest house in Hunterdon County, and it is located right here in Delaware Township. The Board has made arrangements with professionals to assist it in the restoration process.

In order to raise awareness of the Museum, the Board has scheduled several events during 2008. In addition to being open each Sunday from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. from May 4, 2008 to October 26, 2008, the public is invited to the League of Historical Societies' meeting on June 14th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Civil War Re-enactors on August 9th and 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Farmstead Festival on September 13th and 14th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Flea Market on October 5th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

As with most volunteer non-profit organizations, the Board is always looking for help, both financial and volunteer assistance with the many jobs necessary to keep the Museum in good order. There are a variety of tasks that can be performed by a variety of talents. If anyone is interested in helping out, either for a couple of hours each week or on a one-time project, please stop in any Wednesday between 9 a.m. and Noon to discuss it with the Board.

2nd Annual Run of the Mill 5K Race

On June 1, 2008 at 9 a.m., both a 5K race and a 2 mile walk will take place to benefit the Makara Foundation.

The Susan and Chelsea Makara Foundation was founded by Stan Makara in 2006 as tribute to his wife and daughter who perished in an automobile collision that year. The Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports local youth development programs that embody the qualities that these two women exemplified during their lifetimes; self-respect, academic excellence, athletic achievement, and a love of life. The race will begin and end at the Prallsville Mill in Stockton, NJ. Register for the race and obtain information at www.run-of-the-mill.org

Meet Your Neighbor: Gary Warner

by Mary Coffey

Gary Warner is a farrier. What exactly is a "farrier?" The dictionary defines a farrier as "one who shoes horses." The term is from the Old French "ferrier," or "blacksmith." So, a farrier is a blacksmith? Yes, and no. At one time, farriers and blacksmiths were synonymous. A farrier's work in Colonial America would have included horseshoeing as well as the forging of tools, architectural pieces, etc. But today, the proper definition of a farrier is, "a specialist in equine hoof care who couples blacksmith skills (forging and/or adapting a horse's metal shoes) with a knowledge of the anatomy of a horse's lower limbs so that he may take care of the horse's feet."

Gary grew up in nearby Titusville. He spent much of his time at the Washington Crossing Nature Center caring for the animals. He met his wife Joan while they were working at the Princeton Riding Center. They married in 1975 and bought a piece of land in the late 1970's on Hamp Road from the Hamp Estate. Two children followed: Glen, born in 1978 (and now shoeing horses also); and Heather, born in 1979. For the next two years, Gary and Joan and various family members worked every weekend building and landscaping their beautiful log home. Now, some thirty years later, Gary describes their home as "still not quite done," but it is a lovely work in progress.

Gary grew up wanting to be a veterinarian. However, the many years required, as well as the difficulty of getting accepted into a veterinary school, eventually made him believe that this ambition was "insanity." One day, while he and Joan were still dating, Joan gave him a horse magazine to read while he was waiting for her. In the back was an ad for horseshoeing schools. He wrote to several and received a response from a man who ran a school in South Jersey. When he visited the school, the instructor threw at him a horse's leg chopped off at the knee. Far from being freaked out, Gary found it interesting to see how "the whole thing, tendons and all, moved...." Gary ended up going to this school. He did well in farrier school; he even won the competitions which the owner ran for his students, such as who could make a horseshoe the quickest. Though he is not a big man, he wielded a hammer twice the size of the ones used by the other students, and so made a shoe in half the time. The owner of the school, impressed, made a tool for him with an "S" imprinted in it, for "Superman." The other students then called him "Clark" (Kent).

Farriers trim horses' hooves, prepare their shoes, and nail these shoes to the horses' hooves to protect the hoof and keep it from wearing away too quickly. The hoof, much like a fingernail, has no nerve endings and so can be nailed into – as long as it's the right spot. After nailing, the shod hoof is filed, and the farrier then makes certain the horse moves with comfortable stability.

Shoes are either ready-made or custom made, but all shoes are heated first, as heating creates a better fit. The variety of horseshoes available today means that fewer shoes are custom made, but knowing how to make a complete shoe is still important, especially when working with a hoof problem. In cases of horses with certain hoof diseases or injuries, special remedial procedures may be needed, and special shoes may need to be constructed and fitted. Also, if the horse has a heavy workload, works on abrasive footing, needs additional traction, or has pathological changes in the foot, then special shoes may be required.

Farriery is strenuous work. Farriers often lift and hold a horse's foot for 15 minutes at a time – no small feat, considering large horses can weigh at least 1200 pounds. Because of these

physical demands, most farriers are men, although in the last decade there has been an increase in the number of women joining the horseshoeing ranks. According to the American Farriers Association (AFA), about 10% of today's farriers are women.

Accordingly, Gary needs to stay in good shape. He does 100-200 sit-ups each day because, "If you don't exercise, its like a machine that you don't oil." His job keeps him in shape, especially the legs, which in horseshoeing "hold everything. Your back and your shoulders shouldn't be holding the weight; if they are, then you're doing it wrong." His own legs are "very strong, like a weight-lifters." In occasional talks at farrier's conventions, he tells the horseshoers that they are like "professional athletes."

Farriers have contests to make hand-made shoes and Gary participates. Gary says, "the real reason you compete is that it makes you a faster, more efficient, better horseshoer. The other farriers critique your work; you learn a lot. In horseshoeing, you have to understand perfectly the anatomy of a horse's foot. There's a whole lot of sensitive structures involved. If you put a nail in the wrong place, or put pressure on the wrong place, you could end up with the horse being dead from what you have done wrong" (horses which are irreparably lame are often put down). "The part of this job which intrigued me was that it was a lot like veterinary medicine. One vet I worked with estimated that, in my career, I had looked at half a million horse feet. So I know what I'm looking at. Sometimes you work with a vet who doesn't understand what you are trying to tell them; sometimes you work with trainers who don't know anything. All you can do is to tell them what you know."

Though his wife has horses now, Gary never grew up with horses, and still doesn't ride. When he first started shoeing horses, he was "not real happy" around them. A few farriers are hurt and even killed every year going out in a field trying to catch a horse.

His hobbies include giving talks to Pony Clubs about horseshoeing. Also, when their kids were home, they used to do kayaking (Glen won gold and silver medals at the Junior Olympics for kayak racing; and Heather was once 11th in the nation). When they are not attending to their considerable plantings on their beautiful landscaped grounds Gary and Joan ride bikes. When asked if the ever did any non-horse-related blacksmithing, Gary produced a life-like, delicate, long-stemmed rose made entirely of iron. Joan also showed me the door knocker he had made for her; a medieval dragon gargoyle. He also makes hammers and tools for horseshoeing.

When asked how he liked living in Delaware Township, he said that he likes where they live very much. "Everybody's friendly and gets along" he says. "We have nice neighbors, and its beautiful. And there are a lot of horses."

Attention Delaware River Enthusiasts

Check out www.state.nj.us/drbc/drbc.htm for information on water trails, bike trails, museums and campgrounds along the Delaware River.

Report Electrical Outages

To report an electrical outage call 1-888-LIGHTSS. This automated system registers power outages. Call even if your neighbor has already called. Repairs to restore large numbers of customers take priority over those that restore only a few customers.

The Old York Road: Part Two

by James Drummond, Township Historian

Delaware Township's Placement on the Transportation Grid

The shortest and most vital connecting link between New York City and Philadelphia in early America was the Old York Road with Delaware Township situated near the half way point along the journey. The route of the road through a corner of the Township proceeded south out of Ringoes on Boss Road, turned left on the present Garboski Road and went left again on Bowne Station Road. At Mt. Airy-Sandy Ridge Road (Queens Road) the old route turned left again and crossed the Alexauken Creek on its way up the hill to Mt. Airy.

The total route was almost identical to the Lenni-Lenape Trail and had originally been built right over that old Indian path which started at Front and Vine Streets in Philadelphia and connected the Neshaminy River outside Philadelphia with the Raritan River near New Brunswick. In Delaware Township the road was laid out exactly over the Indian path and accounts for its twisting character through the Township.

Prior to 1710, Hunterdon County was an "undefined wilderness," according to one witness, and the Old York Road helped define the Township's early character with the first farm in the Township being purchased and settled along its route near the Alexauken Creek. That Township portion of the Road remained a notoriously difficult stretch to navigate as it took four to six horses to pull through a quite rutted and twisting route. Passengers often had to walk the section between Mt. Airy and Ringoes as wagons broke down.

Traffic on the Old York Road was primarily associated with movement involved in the westward migration, but it also had heavy usage by stagecoaches plying their way between Philadelphia and New York City. Two companies competed for passengers along the road: the Swift-Sure Line and the Philadelphia Mail Stage. The stage drivers congregated at John Ringoes Tavern (the present bank building in Ringoes) and it was said among those in "the Hunterdon countryside" that a stage driver could knock a fly off the lead horse's hip with his whip and a casual flip of the wrist. The stages were Troy Post Coaches which were built "broad and high" with the body mounted on leather straps; the swaying motion often made passengers "land sick." The New York and Philadelphia Mail Stage left Philadelphia three days a week at 8:00 AM and arrived in New York City the following day. Because of the rough section through Delaware Township, passengers were often stranded at Ringoes and stayed over in John Ringoes Tavern.

One of the most historic happenings along the old Road was on April 25, 1740, when the great evangelist, George Whitefield, came from Philadelphia over the Old York Road and preached to 5000 people in an open air meeting just outside Ringoes near the church (just beyond the Dunkin' Donuts at Route 202 and the Old York Road). Whitefield's voice could carry to a huge crowd without amplification; Benjamin Franklin testified to his persuasiveness when he attended one of Whitefield's meetings in Philadelphia and found himself giving money in the collection plate, even though he was skeptical of Whitefield's message. This is a strong indicator of the great influence these early itinerant preachers had in America on the formation of local cultures both nationally as well as locally. It is also quite indicative of the influence that travel on the old Road had locally as various cultural influences flowed along the artery and came to affect aspects of life in Delaware Township. Five thousand people in attendance had to

be practically every person for miles around who used the Road to attend this interregional happening.

Perhaps the primary focal point along the Road in Delaware Township was a mill located at the Alexauken Creek just before the Road headed south up the hill to Mt. Airy (near the present pipeline pumping station). The small dammed lake at that point apparently fed power to the mill as people came from miles around to have grain processed as well as having lumber sawed.

One can conclude that just as transportation facilities greatly effect the culture, commerce, and total way of life of an area/region today (witness regional malls built along regional transit lines), it was just so in the past. As Emogene Van Sickle, an early commentator, stated concerning the Old York Road, "along this historic highway, which crossed New Jersey from Lambertville to Elizabethport, history was in the making, which marked the destiny of America." That larger destiny impacted the culture of early Delaware Township, keeping this small corner of the larger world vitally connected to the greater patterns creating America.

And the Winner of the Trivia Contest is....

Renee Kiriluk-Hill, who correctly answered 8 out of 10 of the trivia questions, and got one (and a half) of the tie breakers! Renee receives a gift certificate to Maria Rosa's. Here are the correct answers with a little bit more "history" thrown in. Thanks for reading *The Bridge* for 10 years...and for many more years!

1. When was the Township founded? February 23, 1838, in the Inn of Henry Wagner in Sergeantsville.
2. Who purchased the first tract of land in Delaware Township? John Callowes, March 17, 1695, near Alexauken Creek.
3. What was Sergeantsville called prior to 1827? Sergeantsville was previously called "Skunktown" presumably because it was frequented at certain times of the year by skunks. "Sergeantsville" was adopted as the Township's official name in 1827 in honor of the numerous family of local Sergeants.
4. What year did Community Day begin? 1999.
5. Who was designated the first official "Township Historian"? Marfy Goodspeed.
6. When was the first March on Litter? 1991.
7. For how many years has "Thanksgiving In the Country" been conducted? Thanksgiving in the Country started in 1973.
8. What was the name of the first newsletter produced in December 1998? Layout and design editor Russ Lockwood called the first newsletter "Homestead" because he needed something on the Masthead.
9. Who won the newsletter renaming contest? Cindy and Mick Chianese coined the official name of the newsletter as, "The Bridge, Covering Delaware Township."
10. What or who was featured as the first Meet Your Neighbor? Whiskey Run Herb Farm.

The tie breaker asked who beside Susan Lockwood edited the newsletter. Committeeman Alan Johnson filled in as editor for one newsletter in 2005.

The final tie breaker asked what single graphic appeared in a newsletter besides the covered bridge, postage and masthead. Our answer was a graphic of the new traffic pattern at the Delaware Township School, but Renee also remembered a crossword puzzle in the "Homestead" edition so she gets an extra 1/2 point!

Community Calendar

May 26 Memorial Day – Township Offices Closed
June 3 Election Notice: Primary Election Day from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company
June 15 Fathers' Day
June 19 Zoning Review Meeting at Delaware Township School at 7:30 p.m. in Performing Arts Center
June 28 Recycling Depot 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at DT Garage
July 4 Fourth of July - Township Offices closed
July 12 Household Hazardous Waste Cleanup Day at Hunterdon County Library 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 909-788-1110 for info
July 13 1 p.m. Adult Round Robin Tennis Session
July 26 Recycling Depot 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at DT Garage
Sept. 4 Labor Day - Township Offices closed
Sept. 6 Township-Wide Yard Sale: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain or shine!)
Sept. 27 Computer/Monitors/Televisions/Electronics & Propane Tank Collection Day at Hunterdon County Library 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 908-788-1110 for information. TEN ITEM LIMIT!
Sept. 27 Community Day at Dilts Farm Park Noon to 5 p.m. (Volunteers needed!)

Committee and Board Meetings

Township Committee: Mondays: 8 p.m. on 6/9, 6/30, 7/14, 8/11, and 9/8.
Planning Board: 8 p.m. on Wednesday: 6/4; Tuesdays: 6/17, 7/1, 7/15, 8/5, 8/19, and 9/2.
Board of Health: Mondays: 7:30 p.m. 6/2, 8/4; Wednesday: 9/3.
Open Space Committee: Mondays: 7:30 p.m. on 6/2, 7/7, 8/4, and 9/15.
Agricultural Advisory Committee: Tuesdays: 7:00 p.m. on 6/17, 7/15, 8/19 and 9/16.
Board of Adjustment: Thursdays: 7:30 p.m. on 6/12, 7/10, 8/14, and 9/11.
Recreation Commission: Tuesdays: 7:30 p.m. 6/10, 7/8, 8/12, 9/9.
Environmental Commission: Wednesdays: 7:30 p.m. on 6/18, 7/16, 8/20, and 9/17.
D.T.M.U.A.: Thursdays: 7:30 p.m. on 6/5, 7/3, 8/7, and 9/4.
Shade Tree Commission: Thursdays: 7:00 p.m. on 6/26, 7/24, 8/28, and 9/25

Recycling Depot: Last Saturday of every month from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Township Garage on Rt. 523. 6/28, 7/26, 8/30, and 9/27. Volunteers are needed. This is a great service opportunity. Call Recycling Coordinator Alan Johnson at 609-397-3547.

Township Building Office Hours: Beginning May 5, 2008 and continuing through Friday, September 26, 2008, the Delaware Township Municipal Building will open at 7:30 a.m. and close at 4:30 p.m. Take advantage of the extra hour each morning to conduct Township business on your way into work.

Delaware Township School Board of Education Meetings: 6/24, 7/22, 8/26, 9/23 at 7:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Room

Hunterdon Central Regional High School Board of Education Meetings: 6/23, 7/21, 8/18 and 9/15 at 7 p.m. in the IMC/Library.

Senior Citizens

Residents interested in joining the Delaware Township Seniors' Group contact Mary Hoff 609-397-2505. New Members Welcome!

Meetings:

June 4: Covered Dish Luncheon and regular monthly meeting at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company at Noon.

July and August: No meetings

September 3: Covered Dish Luncheon and regular monthly meeting at the Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company at Noon.

Delaware Township School Activities

May 26 – Memorial Day – School Closed
June 6 – 8th Grade Washington, DC Trip
June 6 – Elementary School Field Day
June 16 – Middle School Field Day
June 16 - DTS Eighth Grade Dance 7:00 p.m. Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company
June 16 - 1:30 p.m. Dismissal
June 17 – Last Day of School 1:30 p.m. Dismissal
June 17 – DTS Promotion 6:00 p.m. in Gymnasium
September 3 – First Day of 2008-2009 School Year

Recreation Commission Activities

Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Dilts Farm Park Clean Up Day on April 19th. There was a very good turnout, and five truckloads of branches and debris were removed.

DTAA Activities: Call Matt Baldwin at 609-397-1040.

Delaware Township Community Day

The Delaware Township Community Day will be held this year on Saturday, September 27th from Noon to 5 p.m. at the Dilts Farm. There is no rain date. More information will be available in the next newsletter, but please mark your calendars now! If you would like to volunteer to help, even for an hour or two, please call the Township Building at 609-397-3240, Ext. 13.

Youth Tennis Lessons

The Delaware Township Recreation Commission will be offering Youth and Teen Tennis lessons at the Dilts Farm Park tennis courts this summer. There will be morning and afternoon sessions starting July 7 until August 15. Each session consists of five – 1 hour lessons a week. Each session costs \$50.00. Please look for a flyer through Delaware Township School and at the Township Building. For information call Laura Darby at 609-397-5932 or Judy Allen at 609-397-3240 Ext. 13.

Adult Tennis Clinic

The Commission will also be offering Adult lessons at the Dilts Farm Park tennis courts this summer. Three day sessions (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday) are scheduled for evenings between 6 and 7 p.m. Each session costs \$30.00. All levels of experience are welcome. For information call Laura Darby at 609-397-5932 or Judy Allen at 609-397-3240 Ext. 13.

All Meetings are at the Town Hall Unless Otherwise Noted.

Calendar Continued

Adult Tennis Round Robin Play

There will be a Round Robin Adult Tennis Session on Sunday, July 13th at 1 p.m. at the Dilts Farm Park. Play is limited to twelve players. The cost is \$2 per player. If the response is good, a second event may be scheduled for July 20th. To register complete the form available at the Township Building and send payment. For information call Laura Darby at 609-397-5932.

Township Yard Sale – September 6th

The Recreation Commission will host the Township-wide yard sale on Saturday, September 6th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Residents interested in participating should register at the Township Building by calling 609-397-3240 no later than August 29th. 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 the Township Building. The Township will advertise the sale in the Democrat. Take advantage of this opportunity to downsize your clutter!

Summer Recreation Program

The Delaware Township Summer Recreation Program begins on Monday, July 28th and runs for two weeks through Friday, August 8th. We are grateful to the Delaware Township Board of Education for permitting the Commission to hold the program at Delaware Township School. An exciting program of arts, crafts, sports, games, assorted activities and field trips have been planned. All children who are residents of Delaware Township and who have completed Kindergarten through eighth grades are invited to participate, and we encourage them to attend the program.

This year the registration fee has been set at \$60 for one child, \$80 for two children, and \$100 for three or more children. Children who qualify for the federal school lunch program should contact Township Clerk Judy Allen for scholarship assistance. The cost for any field trip is in addition to the registration fee. Your child does not have to attend the program every day, so you can take vacations, day trips, or camp weeks as planned. However, the registration fee is for two weeks, and it can not be prorated for shorter periods. Complete the required registration form, available at the Township Building, and return it with your registration fee.

We need adult volunteers to make the program a success. If a parent/guardian volunteers for one or more days, he or she will receive a \$10 refund with only one refund per family. Please indicate if and when you are available on the registration form.

A calendar of scheduled events will be distributed on the first day of the program and thereafter as requested. Campers will be encouraged to bring a snack each day. There is an additional fee for any field trip off the school grounds that is not included in the general registration fee. The program will run every day at the school in addition to any scheduled trip. If your child does not want to go on a trip, he or she can remain at the school with a fully staffed program. Campers in Grades K-3 must have an adult attend the trip with them. There are NO exceptions to this rule.

Please be courteous. NO EARLY DROP-OFFS OR LATE PICK-UPS. All drop-offs and pick-ups will be made from the parking lot on the easterly side of the school. Please do not use the driveway in front of the school. For safety and security reasons, you or your carpool member must pick up your child or children in person. Only students who have completed the sixth grade will be

permitted to walk or ride a bike to and from the program with a signed permission slip from a parent or guardian.

The parent or guardian of any child whose behavior is inappropriate at Summer Recreation will be telephoned. After two warnings, we will incorporate the "three strikes and you're out" rule. The child will no longer be able to attend the program, and no refund will be given.

The registration form and fee must be returned to the Delaware Township Municipal Building, P.O. Box 500, Sergeantsville, NJ 08557 Att: Judy Allen by June 13th. Please make checks payable to the Delaware Township Recreation Commission. Although late registrations will be accepted with no penalty, early notice helps us to plan for supplies.

Questions? Call Judy Allen at 609-397-3240 Ext. 13 or Laura Darby at 609-397-5932. We hope to see you this summer!

Upcoming Recreation Commission Events

Broadway Show: Wicked. November 5th Matinee at 2 p.m. Only 20 tickets available. Details being arranged.

Birding Trip to Hawk Mountain near Reading, PA on November 6th. Details being arranged.

The Christmas Carol on December 6th at McCarter Theater in Princeton. Details being arranged.

Amwell Church of the Brethren

July 14-18 Vacation Bible School – 3 years through High School. 9 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. For information and registration contact Barbara Waldron at 908-782-6206 or online at www.amwell.org (VBS) Youth Groups available.

October 5, 2008 – Amwell Church of the Brethren will be celebrating 275 years as a house of worship to this community.

Sergeantsville United Methodist Church

June 16, 2008 Annual Spring Golf Outing at Heron Glen \$115 per player includes greens fees, cart, lunch, gift bags, prize opportunities and barbecue dinner. Contact Chuck Cline 609-397-2333

August 4th – 8th Vacation Bible School 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Ages 3-12. Adults study at the same time. Dinner included for children and adults. Call 609-397-2333 for more information.

Senior Citizens Recreation

The Hunterdon County Office on Aging offers interesting recreational and educational opportunities to county senior citizens. There are shopping services, health fairs, classes, and recreational activities throughout the year. Call 908-788-1361 for information.

Help Wanted: Newsletter

Can you spare an hour or so four times a year to help with sticking on mailing labels? The Bridge is an all-volunteer effort and we need help. Call Judy: 609-397-3240 x13. Thanks!



The Great Crate Race Celebrates a Milestone

The Great Crate Race will celebrate its 20th anniversary on July 4, 2008! This year, to commemorate the milestone anniversary, you can look forward to muscle, classic and antique cars and tractors on display. Community members will be bringing their own race cars for show and autographs. Local DJ Jonathan Vasey will provide music for the day. The Township parade will again kick-off the day's activities. As always, there will be a concession stand for food and beverages, and commemorative t-shirts, mugs, and programs will be available. Plan to stay for the entire event as there are special guest appearances and surprises planned as well!

The Great Crate Race will be held Friday, July 4th (rain date, Saturday, July 5th). For more details or design requirements, to register for the car and tractor show, or if you have a used crate looking for a new home, please call Tammy Wiszniewski at 908-246-8731. To get involved with the day's activities or to volunteer your help, please contact Tammy. Registration is now \$10, and forms can be picked up at the Township Building or "backpacked" home through DTS by request. Registration and inspection will be held from 7:30 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. on race day. The parade will kick off at 9:30 a.m., and racing will begin at 10:15 a.m.

The Great Crate Race Committee thanks all of its sponsors that help to support the event. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, please contact Tammy. Keep your eyes open for our new signs and banner announcing this year's 20th anniversary race. Whether you are a race participant or a spectator, you should plan to celebrate Independence Day and a 20-year-old Delaware Township tradition, The Great Crate Race. See you at the races!

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, and Teresa Stahl

Layout and DTP: Russ Lockwood

Delaware Township Budget Delayed: Tax Bills will be Delayed

As you may have read, Governor Corzine proposed to eliminate municipal aid to all municipalities having fewer than 5000 residents. According to the census in 2000, Delaware Township has fewer than 5000 residents. As a result, the proposal to eliminate municipal aid would deprive the Township of \$197,951. Last year, out of the \$16 million the Township collected in taxes, \$11 million went to the schools, \$3 million went to the County, and \$2 million stayed in Delaware Township. Consequently, the effects of losing \$197,951 (10% of budget) are severe.

However, at press time, the Governor is reconsidering the elimination of State aid, by considering a phased in elimination, or reconsidering the criteria for the elimination of funding. As a result of this uncertainty, the Township Committee voted to request an extension of time from the State for submitting its budget until such time that it knows definitively whether it will receive State aid and how much. Once it receives information on State aid, the Township Committee will move quickly to complete the budgetting process.

Please note that this delay in the Township's budget will result in a delay in the mailing of tax bills. Look for more information on tax bill mailing on the Township website. www.delawaretpnj.org

2-1-1

An easy-to-remember telephone number that connects callers to the human services they need is 2-1-1. For more information, check out www.nj211.org/factsheet.cfm

Flood Preparedness

For information regarding flood preparedness, visit www.ready.nj.gov

**Delaware Township
Hunterdon County, NJ**

Township Hall

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Zoning Review Meeting: June 19

Great Crate Race: July 4

Township Yard Sale: September 6