



THE **HARBINGER**

SPRING 2007

Meeting Times

- Board of Supervisors meets the second and fourth Monday of each month with the exception of the summer months as follows: May 14, June 25, July 23, and August 27. Work session meetings begin at 6:30 PM with the regular meeting following at approximately 7:00 PM.
- The Planning Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.
- The Sewer Authority meets the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 PM at treatment facility, 2290 Fagleyville Road.
- The Technology Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM.
- The Environmental Advisory Board meets the third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM.
- The Recreation Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM.

NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP PA DID YOU KNOW?



More than 5.4 million Pennsylvanians live in townships of the second class, many not understanding their local government.

William Penn established the four types of political units of government; cities, counties, boroughs and townships, all having the same statutory power and responsibilities; types are further divided into classes. New Hanover is classified as a township of the second class.

The Board of Supervisors govern our township and is comprised of five elected officials serving a six year term. This form of government dates back to the 1600's when the primary task was to maintain roadways. Roadways are one of the priorities but today supervisors must be well-schooled in a wide range of complex issues including land use management, transportation planning, environmental concerns and the overall health of the community.

Supervisors are called upon twenty-four hours a day. They attend various meetings, at a minimum monthly or semi-monthly meetings, where residents have the right to address the board about matters before it or bring their ideas and concerns before the board. Supervisors weigh concerns and suggestions under constraints of the law and respond accordingly.

The township employs a manager/secretary who manages the additional staff of police officers, road workers, zoning and code enforcement officers, and administrative staff.

OFFICE HOURS

8:30am - 4:30pm
Monday thru Friday

CONTACT US

610.323.1008
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epogany@newhanover-pa.org
email

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OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

The township's Open Space Committee worked diligently to update the township's Open Space Plan which was adopted by the Board of Supervisors in February 2006. In order to supplement the funds received from the Montgomery County Open Space Board and designated for preservation of open space, the committee also recommended that the Board of Supervisors add a referendum question to the November ballot to determine whether or not the citizens of the township were in favor of a .15% tax on earned income to fund land preservation, voters passed the referendum. This tax will be collected along with what is known as the 1% earned income tax (now designated as Emergency Services Tax) and resulting in a 1.15% tax on income earned as compensation of employment and will NOT include income on investments and is NOT a real estate tax. In the face of a rapidly developing community, the township realizes the need to preserve open space to be used as active or passive recreation areas or areas which are culturally or historically important to the Township.

The open space committee endeavors to coordinate with adjacent communities, local non-profit organizations and developers in order to preserve the character of the township and the scenic countryside and provide recreation activities for residents with various recreational interests. Recommendations for acquisitions will be provided to the Board of Supervisors who will make the final decisions. Recommendations resulted from hours of discussion by the committee, on-site visits, negotiations with property owners, and consideration of the location and value of the property to the community.



THE CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Spring is here. The crocuses and daffodils have started to pop up. New growth and new life is springing out of the ground. The snow is gone. Thank you to the Public Works Department for another outstanding winter of keeping our roads clear and safe.

Congratulations to officers Bill Moyer and Paul Maxey on their promotions to Corporal. Both of these gentlemen have many years of experience with the New Hanover Township Police Department. Congrats also to Officer Dekkar Dyas for completing his first year at full time. Chief Dykie is doing a fine job of managing his growing police force. The citizens of this township can feel safe because of these men being on our streets.

Speaking of feeling safe, our two fire companies, Sassamansville and New Hanover, continue to do a great job of responding to a variety of scenarios within the township. We are very proud of the fact that our fire companies continue to be all volunteer. Please help them to stay that way with your support by attending their functions and giving donations.

Our administrative staff has also been doing a fine job. Our township manager, Ed Wagner, along with his staff, constantly have to stay on top of everything to ensure that all is running smoothly. With the constant influx of new developments and changes, they all have to keep on top of their toes and they do a fine job.

We have many new projects coming up in our township in the near future. There will be a lot of activity along Rt. 663 and Swamp Pike in the next year or so. Our township is growing quickly. The many committees have done a fine job of managing our growth. As most of you know, the supervisors would like to just say no to the development, but unfortunately we cannot. All we can do is get the best from the quality builders and developers.

We have not raised our township property taxes since the 90's and we would like to keep it that way. With smart commercial growth in this area, we hope to keep up this tradition. We did approve an increase in the earned income tax to put money toward purchasing open space within the township. We plan to start buying parcels of land or the development rights, to help preserve our pristine land.

Yes, things are really changing in this township. New Hanover is experiencing new growth, just like the new growth in the spring time. We can all look forward to the times to come.

Board of Supervisors Chairman, *Martin Dyas*

RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Recreation Committee is a small but mighty group of fine folks who meet every month to help plan and implement fun activities for our fellow residents. After a successful Winter Recreation schedule, we are looking forward to a Summer of great programs for the children of New Hanover Township. This summer, we will once again offer swimming lessons and a summer activity program for elementary age children. The swimming lessons are at Camp Laughing Waters with two sessions to choose from: session #1 runs from June 25 through July 6 and session #2 from July 23 through August 3. Classes are scheduled according to skill level between the hours of 1:30 and 5:30 PM at a cost of \$17.00 per child per session. The YMCA Playground Program also returns in 2007, running from July 2 through July 27 for children who have completed kindergarten as well as those in first through sixth grades. These programs are very affordable and require pre-registration. You won't want to miss them so contact the NHT office or check our website for registration information!



Planning is well under way for NHT's biggest event, the yearly Fall Frolic! Fall Frolic 2007 will be held Saturday, September 22nd, from 1-5 PM at the Community Park; a rain date is scheduled for Sunday, September 23rd. It is an enjoyable day of family fun with new activities being added each year to what is consistently a well attended day of fun and friendship. Face painting, music, crafts, games, special entertainers and great food are all part of the celebration. Mark your calendars now so you remember to attend the Fall Frolic!



Do you want to have a say in what recreation programs are offered in your township? Do you have ideas about new activities the township should offer? Why not come out to a Recreation Committee meeting?!?! The committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at the Township Building and would welcome your visit and your ideas. Perhaps you may even want to join us! Additional information is available by contacting the township office at 610-323-1008 or by visiting the township's website: www.newhanover-pa.org. Thanks!

NEW HANOVER FIRE COMPANY #1 ATTAINS VOLUNTARY RESCUE SERVICE RECOGNITION AWARD

A joint program of the Pennsylvania Department of Health and State Fire Commissioner recognizes rescue services that have attained requirements for:

- Personnel
- Training
- Equipment
- Communications & Reporting

By meeting these requirements it helps enable them to perform vehicle and other types of rescues in a safe and efficient manner. Through this voluntary program the New Hanover Fire Company #1 has attained the Advanced-heavy rescue level. Advanced-rescue enables the rescue company to handle basic through complex rescue operations.

Equipment carried includes basic and advanced hand tools, hydraulic tools and also air bags. The company also carries a complete compliment of rope and related gear for high angle and below grade rescues.

The program involves an application process, a through inspection of their equipment, personnel, training records and policies in order to receive a recommendation for State rescue recognition.

New Hanover Fire Company #1 becomes the 5th advanced-heavy rescue company in the County to be recognized, the County also has 10 other companies that have achieved either the responder or operations recognition. There are a total of 90 recognized rescue companies in the Commonwealth meaning that Montgomery County rescue companies make up



17% of all currently recognized rescue companies.

Residents and visitors can be proud when they see the fire / rescue apparatus with the rescue seal, that their firefighters are trained and ready to respond to vehicle rescues and other types of rescues and work side by side with EMS to rescue the patients when every minute counts.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORTS

Now that the winter season is coming to a close, this department looks forward to its summer paving and work schedule. Tentatively scheduled to be repaved are:

- Hill Road - between Henning Road and Upper Frederick Township line
- Ludwig Road – between the golf course clubhouse entrance and Middle Creek Road
- Yarnall Road – from Moyer to Mock Road
- Finn Road – overlay the existing blacktop section off Hildebrandt Road and the intersection at Henning Road
- New Hanover Square Road – between Burton Drive and Swamp Picnic Road and between Hildebeidel Road and Rt. 73. The section South of Swamp Pike will be rebuilt by developers in that area

- Gail Drive – overlay between Kleman Road and Bow Lane
- Lutheran Road – between Swamp Pike and Swamp Picnic Road
- Swamp Creek Park - driveway and main parking area

We ask for your patience while improvements are being constructed and also ask that you obey all traffic signals so that our men can work safely. Please remember to allow ample room behind line painting trucks and not to drive onto wet paint in order to avoid paint spraying onto your vehicle.

In cooperation with the Department of Environmental Protection and the Montgomery County Conservation District we remind you that storm water inlets and ditches discharge into creeks and waterways and that these are not the appropriate places to dump yard or household wastes. **Clean** water running across lawns and wooded areas helps to recharge the ground water supply.

FIGHT IDENTITY THEFT

Don't let anyone turn your GOLDEN personal data into lead.

Identity theft is on the rise. There is no 100%, fool-proof way to prevent identify theft but taking precautions can deter and make it more difficult for anyone to steal your personal information.

Following some simple tips can reduce your chances of becoming a victim of identity theft.

- Do not carry extra credit cards, a Social security card or passport in your wallet or purse except when necessary. Keep a photo copy in a safe place.
- Do not click on links in emails from financial institutions.
- Make sure your computer is set to automatically download latest patches and fixes. Install and update virus and spyware detection software.
- Install a lockable mailbox and mail outgoing mail at the post office.
- Take credit card receipts with you – shred them when no longer needed.
- Never leave a purse unattended or visible in your car or in a shopping cart.
- Do not have checks delivered to your home.
- Reconcile your checking and credit card statements and challenge any purchases you did not make.

- Limit number of credit cards- cancel inactive accounts.
- NEVER give credit card, bank or Social Security information to ANYONE by telephone.
- Never display Social Security numbers on checks.
- Shred any pre-approved credit card offers or any printed matter with sensitive information before disposing.
- Keep a list of account information in a secure place so that you can quickly call issuers to inform them if stolen.
- GUARD all ATM & PIN numbers, make sure no one is watching your inputs.
- AVOID using easily available information as a password ie mother's maiden name, birth date or last four digits of a social security number or phone number.
- If regular bills to not arrive, call the company to find out why.
- Periodically contact a major credit reporting firm to review your file for correctness. You are entitled to one free report annually from each of three companies – for info visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free 1-877-322-8228.
- Contact the Federal Trade Commission with any complaints or concerns at www.consumer.gov.idtheft or by calling 1-877-438-4338.

IT IS EASIER TO PREVENT IDENTITY THEFT THAN TO SOLVE IT!!!!!!



THE HARBINGER

PRESORT STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
Pottstown, PA
Permit# 190

New Hanover Township
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New Hanover Township Board of Supervisors

Martin Dyas
Chairman

Douglas Muller
Vice Chairman

Ralph Fluharty
Treasurer

Andrew Kelly

David P. Brown

Township Manager - Edward C. Wagner

SPRING FLOODING SAFETY TIPS

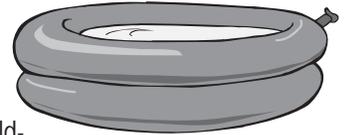
Certain roadways and areas of New Hanover Township are prone to flooding conditions. Each year people drown due to underestimating the force and power of water, usually after their vehicles have been swept down stream. These incidents can be avoided by following the following safety rules:

- Monitor a local weather source for up-to-date warnings or conditions.
- If flooding conditions are reported, stay out of areas prone to flooding.
- Avoid areas which are flooded, DO NOT attempt to cross a bridge over a flooded stream.
- Road beds may be washed out, NEVER drive through a flooded area.
- Do not camp or park your vehicle along a stream during threatening conditions.
- Be especially cautious at night when it is harder to recognize flood dangers.

Remember that by taking risks you are not only endangering your life and property but are also endangering any persons or emergency personnel, who are called to assist you and whose assistance may be needed elsewhere.

**ALWAYS, SAFETY FIRST!!
TURN AROUND
DON'T DROWN**

SWIMMING POOLS



With a new interest in "blue blow-up" above ground swimming pools, the township would like to remind residents of the swimming pool regulations. Building and zoning permits are required for all pools, spas, and hot tubs holding 24" or more of water.

Swimming pools capable of holding less than 24" of water are considered kiddie-pools and do not require a permit, but it is recommended that they be emptied when not in use unless located within a fenced-in area. Pools 24" in depth or higher require fencing. "Blue blow-up" pools between 24" and 48" in depth are required to be located in a fenced-in area.

All accessory structures, including fences and pool equipment must be located outside the side and rear yard setback area required by the zoning ordinance; front yard setback requirements must be met on corner lots.

Above ground pools 48" and higher with Code approved safety features do not require fencing. Ladders must be removed from the pools when not in use.

Please contact the Township Code Enforcement Department at 610-327-2535 with any questions.