



The Harbinger

Volume VII Issue II

NEWSLETTER OF NEW HANOVER TOWNSHIP

Summer 2004

Inside this issue:

Chairman's Corner	2
Trash Collection Info	2
Events Calendar	3
Sewer Authority News	4
Recreation News	4
News Around Town	5
Swimming Pool Requirements	6

Township Phone Numbers

Administrative Office

610-323-1008 Tel.

610-323-5173 Fax

Hours 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

Code Enforcement Office

610-327-2535

Hours

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Sewer Administrator

610-326-6203

Hours 9:00 AM- 5:00 PM

Emergency –911

Police Department

(non emergency)

610-327-1441

215-679-5311

New Hanover & Sassamansville Fire Co.

610-323-2424

215-679-5311

EMAIL & Web Site

newhanovertownship@comcast.net

www.newhanover-pa.org

Uniform Building Code Update

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is transitioning to the use of a statewide building code, the Uniform Construction Code (UCC), which will be administered and enforced by New Hanover Township following the June 28, 2004 adoption.

The UCC currently applies to the construction, alteration, repair, demolition, location, maintenance, occupancy, or change of occupancy of every building or structure which occurs on or after adoption of the ordinance.

Listed below is information frequently requested by residents. Please remember to contact the Code Enforcement Officer at 610-327-2535 or 610-754-5452 if you have any question or doubt whether or not a permit is needed.

- * **Building Permits** – any owner or authorized agent who intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, install, move or demolish any subject building or structure, or change the occupancy of any building or erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace an electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system regulated by the UCC shall first apply to the building code official and obtain the required permit.

- * **Zoning Permits** – are required before establishing any new use, building or structure (residential or nonresidential and including fences and pools,) and before changing the type of occupancy or occupants for any non-residential use. Zoning Permits are also required before establishing any home occupation.

- * **Penalties for Noncompliance** – be advised that adopted ordinances provide for the collection of double fees (in addition to submission of all required permit application documents) if any work is commenced and/or completed without obtaining the necessary permits. Additionally, continued or current noncompliance can result in the institution of severe fines.



For more information about the building code, log onto www.dlistate.pa.us and click on "Building Code" under Quick Links. Then choose the "Implementation Update" item. You may also call PSATS at (717) 763-0930.

The New Hanover Township Building and Code Enforcement Department is also available to answer your questions. When in doubt, please call.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Police Department Benefits from Generous Donors

The New Hanover Township Police Department would like to thank The Lutheran Youth Club of New Hanover and Comcast Cable Communications Inc. for their generous contributions to the Police Department.

Chief Michael Dykie was surprised and delighted to receive a significant donation from the Lutheran Youth

Club of New Hanover for the purchase of two tasers. The club did fund raisers to raise the money. New Hanover Township is extremely grateful for their generous donation.

The Police Department also received a generous donation from Comcast Cable Communications Inc. for the purchase of two digital cameras and a dock-

ing station for the cameras. These cameras will be utilized at crime scenes and accident scenes and can be attached electronically to police reports for electronic filing.

Keeping up with technological advancements makes it possible to improve service and departmental efficiencies. Thank you to all who contributed.

Chairman's Corner

Summer is now in full swing. I hope everyone is enjoying their vacations and the warm weather. There have been many exciting things going on in New Hanover Township since the last Harbinger newsletter was issued.

Many New Hanover citizens enjoyed a bus trip to see the Phillies play in Citizen's Bank Park. The Phils didn't win the game, but everyone had a great time. Thanks go out to Tom Howley and Eileen Pogany for putting this activity together. Hopefully, we can do this again sometime.

We have a new supervisor on the board. Byron Wilson has been replaced by Doug Muller. Byron had a business opportunity that took him away from our area. He will be missed. Doug is the current chair-

man of the Planning Commission and with his business and community experiences, he will fit in nicely with the rest of the board. With Doug's resignation from the Planning Commission, we are now seeking a qualified candidate to take his place.

The board is looking into a new township trash program. The Environmental Advisory Board has provided us with a good alternative program that is under consideration. The new program will start at the beginning of next year and should be fair to all and add more flexibility. This new program will be discussed at upcoming Board of Supervisor's meetings.

After months and months of research and hard work, we have adopted the new Town Center and

Traditional Neighborhood zoning districts in the vicinity of the old New Hanover Airport. We have successfully prevented the possibility of a development that could have been over three times the size of the Coventry Mall. The new zoning will create a nice mix of commercial business and individual homes with lots of open space. The Main Street atmosphere will work very nicely with our rural community.

I hope everyone continues to have a safe and happy summer.

Sincerely,

Martin Dyas
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

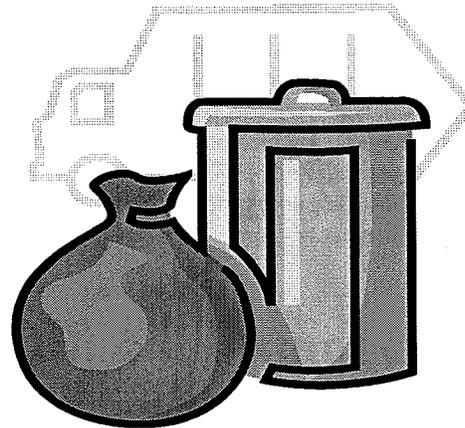
Trash Program to Get Overhauled: Fresh Start in the New Year

The Township's contract with Waste Management is due to expire December 31, 2004 and the Township will not be exercising the optional additional contract years.

The Board of Supervisors has listened to the numerous complaints, concerns and problems raised by residents as well as the comments from residents who appreciate the convenience, simplicity and cost savings they have experienced

While the consensus is that it may be impossible to please everyone all of the time, the Board of Supervisors directed the Environmental Advisory Board to come up with a trash and recycling program that will meet State requirements for recycling and attempt to address issues such as choice of hauler, pay per volume trash collection, unlimited trash collection, bulk item collection, and restricting the number of trash trucks traveling Township Roads on a daily basis.

The Supervisors will be asking for public comment on any program changes proposed and amendments to the Township Solid Waste Ordinance. The



Board of Supervisors Meetings in July and August are scheduled for 7:00 PM July 26th and August 23. In September, October, and November meetings will be the second and fourth Mondays at 7:00 PM. The final meeting of the year is

scheduled for December 13th.

The Environmental Advisory Board has recommended a program similar to a program currently in place in Lower Gwynedd Township. The program allows for a Township bid "designated hauler" for all residential properties and the ability for residents to select a different private hauler if they are unhappy with the service of the designated hauler. Customers would also be able to choose from curbside collection of trash from a toter or a pay-per-bag plan. Recycling will be required regardless of which hauler is used.

The intent of the changes is to provide residents with greater choices and better service with different cost options suitable to the individual needs of each family. If you have comments please submit them to New Hanover Township or attend a public meeting.

Events CALENDAR

August 2-13, 2004

Summer Swim Lessons

When: Hourly 10 AM – 1PM

Where: Camp Laughing Waters

Registration for this popular Township program ended July 12th. Please make a note to register next May for the June Session or next July for the August Session. This program is provided for New Hanover Township and Upper Frederick Township residents as part of the New Hanover Township Recreation Program. The program is administered by The Girl Scouts of Southeastern Pennsylvania at Camp Laughing Waters off of Hildebeidel Road in New Hanover Township. The program includes ten (10) classes with 45 minutes of instruction and 15 minutes of free swim time in the pool.

*August 4, 18, September 1, 15, 29
October 13, 27, November 10, 24*

Bookmobile Schedule

When: 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

**Where: Freed's Supermarket
Parking lot**

This is a free traveling library and all Montgomery County residents are eligible for a library card. This service is sponsored by the Montgomery County Commissioners and Local Municipalities.

The materials available include: audio tapes, books, large print, videos & magazines for all ages. Other materials may be requested. The direct line for bookmobile service inquiries is 610-278-5100 ext. 5, 9AM-5PM Monday through Friday.

September 14, 2004

Water Conservation Work Shop

When: 7:00 PM

**Where: Montgomery County
Community College –
Pottstown Campus**

The Montgomery County Conservation District is proud to offer County residents a free workshop that will cover topics such as stormwater management, water conservation, and the use of rain barrels. Free Spruce Creek Rainsavers will be given out to the first 30 people to register for each workshop. Register by contacting Susan Greth of the Montgomery County Conservation District at 610-489-4506 (x19).

September 25, 2004

Rain date: September 26, 2004

Fall Frolic

When: 1 PM– 5:00 PM

**Where: New Hanover Twp.
Community Park at
2766 Gail Drive.**

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our Annual Fall Frolic on Saturday, September 25, 2004 with a rain date of September 26th. The event will once again take place at the New Hanover Township Community Park.

Activities include pony rides, pumpkin painting, petting zoo, cookie decorating, demonstrations, games, food, Mom's Club activities for the little ones, and entertainment. Come join your fellow resi-

dents and celebrate the spirit of New Hanover Township.

The Recreation Committee works to continually improve the event; if you have any suggestions for activities, food, entertainment or protocol, please pass them along to (tahowley@comcast.net) or to the Township Office at (newhanovertownship@comcast.net).

See you on September 25th!

October 2, 9, 16, 2004

Bulk Item Trash Collection

When:

Monday collections -Sat. Oct. 2nd
Tuesday collections - Sat. Oct. 9th
Wednesday collects.- Sat. Oct. 16th

What: Items such as TV sets, VCRs, furniture, bedding, lumber, oversized refuse items and "white goods" may be set out for collection if they can be lifted by two workers. "White goods" includes dishwashers, clothes washers, clothes dryers, stoves, ovens, hot water heaters, furnaces and electrical heaters. Lumber must be bundled and tied and cannot exceed six feet in length.

Items that **will not be collected** include refrigerators, air conditioners, freezers, or any other appliance containing CFC's. They will collect items from which **CFC's have been removed** if the item has been certified and is tagged appropriately. Any hazardous material, including tires, car parts, any container holding fluid, and any other item which cannot be carried by two or fewer people will not be collected.

Please have all items at the curbside the Friday evening prior to your scheduled bulk-item collection day.

By Your AUTHORITY

As we all clean up from the heavy storms of last week, the New Hanover Township Authority would like to take this opportunity to remind the residents connected to public sewer that there are things they can do to help us control costs.

The employees at the New Hanover Township Wastewater Treatment Plant work very hard to keep the plant running efficiently. However, when the area experiences significant rainfall, the plant suffers from highly increased flows coming into the plant. One reason for this increase is because of sump pumps and floor drains being connected into the public sewer. When homeowners discharge clean rain water into the wastewater collection system, it gets carried to the plant with the other wastewater where it has to be cleaned and treated before being discharged into the stream. This increases the labor, supplies, and operating costs of treating the

wastewater, which in turns affects you, the ratepayer.

Another reason for increased flow is due to infiltration of rain water directly into the collection systems by cracks in the lines or broken vent caps and clean out covers. All structures connected to the public sewer have a vent and clean out pipe. They should be visible, as the vents are required to be of a height to prevent water from entering the pipes. Take a moment to inspect your clean out and vent. If the pipes are broken or cracked or missing the covers, there is a good chance that clean water could enter the collection system during rain storms. Repairs to your clean out or vent are fairly inexpensive and can be done by most local plumbers.

The Authority and its employees strive to control costs, locate and repair problems, and increase the plant's efficiency. Many times, people may not realize that they

can have a direct effect on how the system operates.

Please remember that discharging clean water into the wastewater treatment system is a violation of the Department of Environmental Protection's regulations and is punishable by fines. The Authority prefers to work cooperatively with their customers and would rather educate and work with residents to help keep the plant running more efficiently.

The Authority would only issue violations as a last resort, so please do not hesitate to contact us for assistance should you have a question or possible violation. We will be happy to work with you to resolve and correct the situation. Should a resident have a concern or question, they can contact the Sewer Administrator at 610-326-6203.

Talking About RECREA-

Phillies Trip A Success

The New Hanover group bus trip to the newly opened Philadelphia Phillies CITIZENS BANK PARK stadium on Friday, June 18, 2004 was a big success. We ended up with two bus loads of folks and cruised through the traffic in comfort.

The weather was terrific and all enjoyed the game. Everyone cheered when New Hanover Township was flashed across the screen listing groups in attendance.

The new park was awesome. If you haven't been to the new stadium, you missed a great opportunity.

Keep checking this newsletter or our Township website: <http://www.newhanover-pa.org/> for information about any other planned trips.



Arial View of Citizens Bank Park

Summer Arts and Crafts Camp: A Success

The YMCA staffs this program to accommodate the number of children attending. Elementary school aged children enjoy the facility and noncompetitive activities at the Township's Community Park on Gail Drive. The cost of this program is subsidized by the Township and offered at a very low cost in order to make it affordable to all families or to those who cannot attend for the entirety of the program.

Volunteers Needed

The Recreation Committee strives to provide the Township with assistance in park planning and in planning recreational events for the residents of New Hanover Township. Agreements for use of Township parks at designated times provide athletic fields for several organized athletic associations. Continued park development provides safe areas for residents to pursue recreational and fitness activities.

Committee meetings take place one evening a month, usually the first Wednesday, with additional meetings scheduled as needed for events such as the Fall Frolic. A few more volunteers are needed to enable the committee to accomplish more for our rapidly developing community.

Please consider lending a hand either as a committee member or as a volunteer for special projects or events. Please contact Eileen at the Township office.

News AROUND TOWN

New Supervisor Appointed

At their June 28, 2004 Regular Meeting, the Board of Supervisors filled a vacancy on the Board created by the resignation of Byron Wilson.

Douglas Muller was the unanimous choice of the Board to fill the vacancy. Mr. Muller has served on the Planning Commission for several years and served as Chairman of the Planning Commission since January. Mr. Muller lives in the northern section of New Hanover Township with his wife and two children. He joins Supervisor Ralph Fluharty as a representative for the northern and less developed sections of the Township.

Following his appointment to the Board of Supervisors Mr. Muller submitted his resignation from the Planning Commission. He will continue to serve until a replacement is named. Anyone interested in serving on the Planning Commission should complete an application form and submit a resume to the Township.

Mr. Wilson resigned from his positions on the Sewer Authority and Board of Supervisors when he and his family relocated to York, Pennsylvania.

Swamp Pike & Rt. 663

New Hanover Township received formal notification from PennDot that a revised permit was approved for the reconfiguration of lanes at the intersection of Swamp Pike and Route 663.

The Township will contract to have the lanes and street markings restriped to create dedicated left turn and combination straight/right turn lanes for Route 663 in both directions.

The current lane configuration was intended to be temporary until PennDot completed road widening on the north side of Swamp Pike. Some close calls at this intersection caused the Board of Supervisor to change the lane configuration now, at the Township's expense, rather than wait for PennDot's estimated 2006 construction.

Fagleysville Road Bridge To Reopen

At the time of printing, an exact date is not known, however the Township has been informed by PennDot that the Fagleysville Bridge in Upper Frederick will be reopened to traffic by the end of July.

This bridge has been closed since 1997 and combined with other deteriorated and/or closed bridges in the area, effectively isolated parts of Upper Frederick and New Hanover Townships.

Reopening of the Fagleysville Road Bridge and the Colonial Road Bridge in Upper Frederick and getting the smaller bridge on Fagleysville Road repaired has been a top priority for Representative Bunt's office as well as the Upper Frederick and New Hanover Township Boards of Supervisors.

Municipal Building Expansion

Township officials hired architects W2A Design Group of Allentown to perform a feasibility study for expansion of the Police, Public Works and Municipal offices of the Township.

There is no more room for growth within the existing building and tight quarters have raised safety and practical concerns for the Police Department and record storage and office space problems for the Administrative Departments. Additional vehicle storage space is also needed by the Public Works Department.

A committee is working with the Architects to come up with a couple of options and costs estimates for expansion on the existing property at 2943 N. Charlotte Street. The Board of Supervisors will be given the chance to review the options during the process and options will be presented for public comment.

Town Center Zoning Adopted

After over a year of preparation and research by the Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors, the Board of Supervisors, in

April, adopted two new zoning districts we call Town Center and Traditional Neighborhood. The new zoning was applied to approximately 319 acres of land along Swamp Pike between Lutheran Road and the Douglass Township border.

These districts replace Commercial Business District Zoning that was previously applied in this area. Our intent is to provide mixed use and traditional neighborhood zoning mechanisms to create a pedestrian friendly development with lots of open space, complementary to the local community character and quality that will create a positive physical and economic addition to New Hanover Township

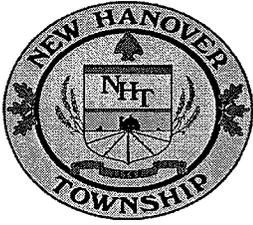
The two districts include approximately 94 separate properties that, when developed, will provide for a core commercial center similar to Main Street at Exton with surrounding traditional residential neighborhoods with open space, bikeways and public space for civic events and activities.

It is our hope that this new district will meet the commercial needs of a growing community but blend in and be more complementary to the existing character of New Hanover Township than the traditional shopping plaza or mall.

Bicycle Trail Grant Awarded

New Hanover Township was fortunate to be awarded a Transportation Enhancement (TE) grant in the amount of \$160,425. This federal grant program is highly competitive and goes through rigorous reviews.

The grant is for the installation of the first trail segment from the newly adopted Master Trail Plan. The Trail will connect the New Hanover Community Park off Gail Drive with the future Layfield Park (open space on Dotterer Road), Middle Creek Athletic Fields and the YMCA. The trail will also connect over 650 housing units currently proposed by developers in the Dotterer Road corridor with Township open space and the future Town Center.



New Hanover Township
2943 North Charlotte Street
Gilbertsville, PA 19525-9718

PRESORTED
BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Gilbertsville, PA
Permit No. 10

New Hanover Township
Board of Supervisors

Martin Dyas

Robert Petro

Catherine M. Loss

Ralph Fluharty

Douglas Muller

Mail to Current Resident or:

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

About Those Blue Pools

With a new interest in "blue blow-up" above ground swimming pools, the Township would like to remind residents of our aboveground swimming pool regulations.

- Zoning Permits are required for all pools or spas holding 24" or more of water.
- All inground pools require a building permit. All accessory structures, fences and pool equipment must be located adhering to the zoning side and rear yard (front yard on corner lots) setbacks.
- All aboveground swimming pools (including most "Blue Blow-up Pools") 24" and higher require a building permit.

- Outdoor spas and hot tubs require a building permit when water depth is 24" or greater.



emptied when not in use, unless it is in a fenced in area.

- Aboveground pools 48" and higher with Code approved safety features do not require fencing. Ladders must be removed from the pool when not in use. All other pools 24" in depth or higher require fencing.

Some "blue blow-up" swimming pools are between 24" and 48" in depth. The Township requires these and similar swimming pools to be in a fenced-in area.

Please contact the Township Code Enforcement Officer at 610-327-2535 or 610-754-5452 for any questions regarding swimming pools.

- Swimming pools less than 24" high are considered kiddie-pools and do not require a permit, but must be