



Lower Saucon Township

-Established in 1743-

Volume 18 Issue 3
Fall 2014

Important Lower Saucon Township Reminder:

The **2014** Real Estate Tax is now due and in the penalty amount.

Daylight savings time change will take effect on November 2nd, at 2:00 a.m. Change your clocks and fall back one hour.

Tuesday November 4th is Election Day.

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A Message from Council President Ron Horiszny.....



Open space preservation has been a priority of the Lower Saucon Township Council for many years. Open space provides a variety of environmental benefits including protection of water resources, preservation of biodiversity and wildlife habitats; the creation of greenways and support of recreational opportunities. The most recent acquisition by the Township Open Space Program, the former Woodland Hills Golf Course, is a 148-acre parcel with walking trails, naturalized fields, woods and ponds that will be

utilized for passive recreation. It was approved by the Township Council this past August 20th. Previously, the Township acquired a 46-acre parcel off of Apple Street and preserved an adjoining 11 acres through a conservation easement.

Funding for open space preservation was made possible by the passage of a voter referendum in 2005 that approved an earned income tax of 0.25% for open space purposes, which was re-approved in 2011 and is due to expire in 2016. So far this tax has generated a total of \$7,083,782.12. In most cases the Township augments our open space funds with grants from state and local sources. For example, more than half of the cost of acquiring the golf course property will be offset by grants that the Township will be receiving from Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) and Northampton County Open Space Fund grants. This open space funding has enabled the Township to preserve 16 parcels totaling 393.64 acres. A map of these parcels is available at: <http://www.lowersaucontownship.org/pdf/osmap.pdf>. Land can be preserved through conservation easement sales and donations; through fee simple acquisitions by the Township, or by land donations that provide substantial charitable tax deductions.



The Township's Environmental Advisory Council, through their Open Space Sub-Committee and Open Space Consultants at Heritage Conservancy, will work with landowners to determine the best method of ensuring the lasting conservation of their property. Please contact the Township at: manager@lowersaucontownship.org if you are interested.

Ron

Lower Saucon Township Council President

Lower Saucon Township Police Department News

Lower Saucon Police Bike Unit

The Lower Saucon Police Department Bike Unit was implemented in June 2000 and currently consists of three members, Officers David Roxberry, James Connell, and Kyle Bartholomew. Officer Bartholomew is also a certified police bike instructor.

The bike unit patrols neighborhoods, the Saucon Rail Trail, and attends community events and parades. The bike officers look forward to seeing you as they patrol the township.



The bike unit receives assistance with the upkeep of their bikes from experts at Saucon Valley Bikes.

Phone Scams

Unfortunately, the frequency of reported/reports of phone scams continues to increase. This is a national problem, and in most cases the perpetrator remains elusive due to their ability to hide their true identity and location, which can be anywhere in the world.

Several government agencies, including the *Federal Trade Commission (FTC)*, *Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)*, and *Internal Revenue Service (IRS)* maintain websites that educate citizens about these types of scams including how to detect and avoid them.

Visit these sites and learn how not to be a victim:

FTC - <http://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0076-phone-scams>, *FBI* - <http://www.fbi.gov/scams-safety/fraud>, *IRS* - <http://www.irs.gov/uac/Newsroom/IRS-Warns-of-Pervasive-Telephone-Scam>

As always, any Lower Saucon Township resident who would like to speak to a police officer about a suspected phone scam may phone the Non-Emergency number at 610-759-2200.

Preventing Thefts From Motor Vehicles

There have been numerous thefts from motor vehicles within the past year. All have involved vehicles that have been left unlocked by the vehicle operators/owners. Following the tips below will help prevent you from becoming a victim:

- Always make sure your vehicle windows are rolled up and the doors are locked.
- Install a vehicle alarm and be sure to activate it when the vehicle is unoccupied.
- Remove books, electronics, and other valuables from the vehicle or keep them hidden. Expensive items in plain view invite theft even if the vehicle is locked.
- Never leave money, check books or credit cards in your vehicle.



Working smoke alarms can make a life-saving difference in a fire. That's the message behind this year's Fire Prevention Week campaign, "Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month!"

Along with firefighters and safety advocates nationwide, our Township volunteer fire companies will be joining forces with the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) during Fire Prevention Week, October 5-11, to remind local residents about the importance of having working smoke alarms in the home and testing them monthly.

According to the latest NFPA research, working smoke alarms cut the chance of dying in a fire in half. Meanwhile, almost two-thirds of home fire deaths resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

In a fire, seconds count. Roughly half of home fire deaths result from fires reported at night between 11 p.m. and 7 a.m. when most people are asleep. Home smoke alarms can alert people to a fire before it spreads, giving everyone enough time to get out.

This year's Fire Prevention Week campaign includes the following smoke alarm messages:

- Install smoke alarms in every bedroom, outside each separate sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- Interconnect all smoke alarms throughout the home. This way, when one sounds, they all do.
- Test alarms at least monthly by pushing the test button.
- Replace all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old or sooner if they don't respond properly.
- Make sure everyone in the home knows the sound of the smoke alarm and understands what to do when they hear it.

Ken Luybli
Township Fire Marshall

Hellertown Area Library Calendar of Events



Fall Children's Events at the library!
Please visit the library or call
(610) 838-8381 to sign up!

Tea Party Story Time! Dress up in your best tea party attire and join us for tea, cookies and of course stories! Ages 4-8
Wednesday, September 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Mother Daughter Book Club!

Read the book Charmed Life, Caitlin's Lucky Charm and join us for a book discussion. We'll make a recipe from the book as well! Ages 8-13 and an adult. September 24th at 6:30 p.m. \$5 per family includes a copy of the book to keep. We will call you as soon as the book comes in.

Vroom! Vroom! Get your engines going and zoom over to the library for our **Transportation Themed Story-Time!!** Make your own car to sit in and listen to stories about cars, trains and planes! For children ages 4-8.
Wednesday, October 1st at 4:00 p.m.

Fall Story Times!

Please visit the library or call (610) 838-8381 to sign up!!
Book Bugs—**Toddler Story Time** include stories, songs and creative movement activities for our youngest readers (under 3) and their caregivers! Select Tuesdays this Fall at 10:30 a.m. This program is free. September 16th, 23rd, 30th.
October 21st and 28th November 18th and 25th.

Story Time for 3's and 4's

Stories, songs and activities for children ages 3 and 4!
\$5.00 program fee. Thursdays at 10:30 p.m.
September 25th, October 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd

Kindergarten Story Time (ages 5 and up)

Stories, crafts, songs and fun for children age 5 and older.
\$5.00 program fee
AM Session: Fridays at 10:00 a.m. October 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th or PM Session: Thursdays at 1:30 p.m.
October 2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd.

All Library events are free and open to everyone but space is limited.

Monday & Wednesday 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 a.m. -6:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m.

Saturday 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m.

Sunday—closed

Closed on Holiday's

Please register by: Phone, in-person, or by email
readabook@hellertownlibrary.org

Election Day Information

Not sure where to go to cast your vote? Listed below are the voting districts and their addresses. Election Day is Tuesday, **November 4, 2014**. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The Northampton County Voter Registration Office is looking for persons interested in serving as inspectors for the polling places. For more information contact Northampton County at **610-559-3055** or visit their website at www.northamptoncounty.org/vote. Please note, the **Township offices will be closed on Election Day.**

DISTRICT No. 1

Lower Saucon-Hellertown

Saucon Valley High School
Door #19
2097 Polk Valley Road
Hellertown, PA

DISTRICT No. 2

Lower Saucon-Leithsville

Leithsville Fire House
1995 Leithsville Road
Hellertown, PA

DISTRICT No. 3

Lower Saucon-Lower Saucon

Christ Lutheran Church
of Lower Saucon Old School-
house at the Corner of Easton and
Mockingbird Hill Roads
Hellertown, PA

DISTRICT No. 4

LOWER SAUCON- SEIDERSVILLE

Seidersville Hall
(Old Town Hall)
3700 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

DISTRICT No. 5

Lower Saucon-Shimersville

Steel City Fire House
2121 Riverside Drive
Bethlehem, PA

DISTRICT No. 6

Lower Saucon-Wassergass

Southeastern Volunteer
Fire Co.
2687 Wassergass Road
Hellertown, PA

DISTRICT No. 7

Lower Saucon-Colesville

SE-WY-CO Fire Company
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

DISTRICT No. 8

Lower Saucon-SE-WY-CO

SE-WY-Co Fire Company
3621 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT

Saturday October 11, 2014, 8:30 am to 2:00 pm
Northampton Community College, Main Campus,
Bethlehem Township, PA, Entrance from Green
Pond Rd, ONLY. Follow Signs to parking area

- Northampton County residents ONLY
- No appointment needed
- No need to leave your car
- No charge

* Please bring Photo ID or recent utility bill to verify residency.

Questions?
Contact Tom Dittmar,
Environmental Conservation Coordinator at:
tdittmar@northamptoncounty.org or
610-559-3200, ext 4

Northampton County Department
of Community & Economic
Development...
improving quality of life through
investment in our communities

Water Conservation Tips — Getting Ready for Winter from Lower Saucon Authority

This past winter we noticed a higher-than-normal incidence of customers who had experienced frozen pipes or hose bibs, often as a result of leaving their garden hose hooked up to the hose bib over the winter months. This can allow water to collect in the pipe, which can then freeze and burst in severe cold.

To avoid problems, *disconnect* your garden hose in the fall and store it away over the winter months.

The Most Common Reason for Excessive Water Loss

Of all the causes of excessive water usage, *leaking toilets* still create the most problems. Either the float adjustment allows water in the storage tank to run over the overflow tube, or the flapper valve at the bottom of the tank does not seal well and allows water to leak past into the bowl and literally “down the drain”.

Overflow Tube with Water Level (arrow) set ½- to 1-inch below the top of the Tube (best)



The water level in the tank should always be below the top of the overflow tube. If the level is very close to the top edge of the tube, it needs to be adjusted to avoid problems.

Doing a **dye test** is one way to tell if there is a problem. Put food coloring or a dye strip in the tank and let it sit for 10 or 15 minutes. Then, without flushing, check for any color in the toilet bowl below. If the color migrates into the bowl there is a leak. Dye test strips are available at no charge at the Authority office at 3706 Old Philadelphia Pike.

Help Available

If you feel your water consumption is higher than normal, please call the Authority at 610-317-3212 and discuss with Stacey or Emily. They can review your usage history and, if needed, schedule a field tech to come to your home to help you identify any problems. This investigation is done without charge.

In addition, the Meter Reading page on the website provides guidance on how to read your water meter and spot ongoing leakage. This and other tips on water conservation can be found on the Lower Saucon Authority website at:

www.lowersauconauthority.org

Penn State Students Help with Ella's Garden

On August 21, 2014, a group of incoming freshmen from the Penn State Lehigh Valley Campus helped weed and remove invasive plants from Ella's Garden at the Township's Kingston Park. The service project is part of the college's New Student Welcome and Orientation program. Working under the direction of the Saucon Creek Watershed Association, approximately 12 students pulled and bagged invasive plants in the garden. The garden, which contains a variety of herbaceous native plants and shrubs, is located adjacent to the historic Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse on Limpar and Countryside Lanes. The park is dedicated to Ella Ringhoffer Kingston, who attended the nearby one-room schoolhouse as a young girl. The property was donated to the Township in 2005 by Ella Kingston's son, Dr. Richard Kingston, to be used as a recreational area or park in memory of his late mother.



Native Plant Garden Adopted by Local Boy Scout Troop



Lower Saucon Township is very pleased to announce that a local Boy Scout troop has decided to adopt the Township's Native Plant Garden for ongoing care and maintenance. Boy Scout Troop 416, which is composed of scouts ranging in age from 11 to 17 years of age residing in the Saucon Valley School District area, under the leadership of Troop Leader Rich Williams, were given an orientation session by the Township's Planner, Valerie Liggett, a landscape architect from Boucher & James, Inc. Following this training, the scouts weeded the garden, installed mulch and wood chips, and restored the solar powered pump and waterfall to working order. The scouts will periodically monitor the garden for non-native and invasive weed growth and remove them with hand weeding.

Troop 416 is chartered by the New Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church on Apples Church Road. The troop is involved with community service projects, such as painting fire hydrants, Scouting for Food, watershed restoration and annually recycles cut Christmas trees in the community as a fundraiser in January.

The Native Plant Garden, located on the grounds of the Township's Town Hall property, was originally designed and planted in 2004 by Hans Reimann from Laughing Springs Farm in Springtown, PA for the Township Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) and had been maintained by Girl Scouts for the past several years.

2014 Community Day

This year's Hellertown – Lower Saucon Community Day was another huge success. Celebrating its 13th year, the event was held under sunny skies on Saturday August 16th at Dimmick Park. Over 80 organizations and businesses set up booths for the event and there were food items galore to keep everyone satisfied. Entertainment was provided by the En Avant dancers, Saucon Valley Music, the Deadliners, and the Saucon Valley High School Band, and demonstrations were given by the Township K-9 Unit and the local Karate Arts Group. The car show, which has been an added feature at the event for the past several years, continued to expand with 54 entrants displaying their classic cars along the park entrance road. This year's event presented Outstanding Business awards to Blair Custom Homes and Klassic Gold for their long service to the two communities, and the Community Recognition award was given to Dr. Susan Ackermann.



Lower Saucon Township Historical Society



Lower Saucon Township Historical Society will meet the second Wednesday of October and November in Seidersville Hall, 3700 Old Philadelphia Pike. The meetings start at 7:00 p.m. and guests are always welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, October 8th, local author and historian, Karen Samuels, will entertain us with ghost stories from around Hellertown and Lower Saucon Township. After you hear the strange tales presented by Samuels, your hometown will never seem the same. The stories will include the Leithsville Inn, Waldheim Club, and the three different ghosts who haunt Wydnor Hall, one being a young girl who walks through the same wall at every appearance.

The Historical Society will hold two events at the Lutz-Franklin Schoolhouse, 4216 Countryside Lane. Tours of the schoolhouse are available at all events.

Saturday, October 4th, our Annual Apple Festival will take place at the schoolhouse from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., rain or shine. This year's event will feature an apple dessert contest, apple tasting, and apple crafts for children. John Samuels and trio will provide musical entertainment from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. A special treat for children will be a story hour presented by the Hellertown Library at 12:00 p.m. A variety of apple products will be on sale and lunch will be available for purchase.

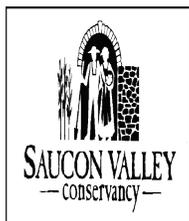
Wednesday, November 12th, Lehigh University Archivist, Ilhan Citak, will speak to us on Lehigh's upcoming 150th anniversary in 2015. The topic of Ilhan's talk is "Lehigh, its history and its place in South Bethlehem". The role of the Packer family in the University's history will be included.

Saturday, December 6th, the Historical Society will host a Holiday Open House at the schoolhouse from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Bring your children, grandchildren, or just bring yourself and have fun making a seasonal decoration, singing carols, and enjoying light refreshments.

Saucon Valley Conservancy

1890-92 Friedensville Road, Lower Saucon Township in Northampton County

Nestled along Saucon Creek just off the Saucon Rail Trail, discover Heller Homestead this fall and join members and friends of Saucon Valley Conservancy at these events.....



This Fall at the Heller Homestead

October 4th through December 14th

- Artworks by Sandra Eckert on exhibit in the gallery

December 9th, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

- Annual Holiday Open House & Reception for artist Sandra Eckert—Discover antiques, books, and collectables at the Gift Shop: meet the artist in the Gallery, tour the museum rooms and listen to our docents cordially take you back in time, visit the 1850 Widow's House and see the beehive oven in the kitchen.

Spring Events at Heller Homestead in 2015

March 1st through April 26th

- Bethlehem Palette Club "Plein Air"

Later in Spring 2015

- Artwalk Festival 2015
- Run Walk Event on Saucon Rail Trail

For more information contact us at 610-838-1199, www.sauconvalleyconservancy.org or visit us on facebook

2014-2015 Dewey Ambulance Subscriptions

Subscriptions for 2014-2015 ambulance services provided by Dewey Fire Company Ambulance Squad/EMS of Hellertown were mailed to Borough and Township residents, according to the squad's Basic Life Support supervisor, Christine Lanning.

The subscriptions are for the period from Oct. 1, 2014 through Sept. 30, 2015.

Signing up for an annual ambulance subscription can help to offset costs not covered by insurance if and when emergency medical transportation is needed.

Local residents (Hellertown Borough & Lower Saucon Township) who did not receive a mailed form and would like one can pick one up at Hellertown Borough and Lower Saucon Township Administration offices or by contacting Dewey EMS at 610-838-1677.

Saucon Valley Spirit Parade Information

The Saucon Valley Halloween Parade will be on Sunday, October 19th at 2:00 p.m. (Line up begins at 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.). There will be no rain date. The 2014 Parade Theme is: Honoring Relay For Life. You may obtain a copy of the application form at the Township. Applications are due no later than October 15th.

Trick or Treat



Trick or Treat will be held on Friday, **October 31st, 2014** for Lower Saucon Township and Hellertown Borough residents from **5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.** (rain or shine).

Residents interested in participating are asked to keep their porch lights on during this three hour period to insure the safety of all those participating. Parents are advised to accompany their children as they go around the neighborhood and should check all candy and treats prior to children eating them.

- * Halloween costumes should be highly visible and not obstruct the child's vision or their ability to walk safely.
- * Utilize a glow stick or similar lighted device for each child, especially in areas with little street lighting.
- * Motorists should use caution when driving on Trick or Treat night and residents should report any suspicious and malicious activity to 610-759-2200.

Saucon Valley Compost Center

The Saucon Valley Compost Center, 2011 Springtown Hill Road, will remain open until November 29th. Hours of operation are Friday & Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., April to November. The facility is closed December 1st to March 31st and on all legal holidays. The Compost Center will be open Saturday's in January from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. for Christmas tree disposal.

Volunteer Picnic



On June 16th, the Township Council held the 6nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic at Town Hall Park to thank the many volunteers who have made contributions to the Township's committees, boards and commissions in the past year. Attending were over 35 representatives from the Historical Committee, Lower Saucon Authority, Parks & Recreation Board, Environmental Advisory Council, Saucon Rail Trail Oversight Commission and Landfill Committee. Also joining the event for the first time were members of committees that were created this past year such as the Hellertown Area Library Board and the Economic Development Task Force. Our Dog Control Officer was in attendance along with volunteer firefighters from the Steel City Fire Company. The Council also recognized the volunteers from the PSU Master Gardeners who planted a meadow at the Reading Drive Trailhead.



Did you know that the Township offers discounted Ski/Tubing Tickets?

Discounted tickets for local & Ski Resorts will be available for township residents (and non-residents) mid-December through March through the Pennsylvania Parks & Recreation Society. Tickets may be purchased at Town Hall from 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For a complete list of prices please visit our website: <http://www.lowersaucontownship.org/pdf/wintertickets.pdf>

Click on the "Parks and Recreation" tab and scroll to "Winter Tickets".

Lower Saucon Township

3700 Old Philadelphia Pike
Bethlehem, PA 18015



PRSR STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lehigh Valley, PA
Permit #618

Lower Saucon Township Officials

Ron Horiszny	Council President
Tom Maxfield	Council Vice President
Priscilla deLeon	Council Member
Glenn Kern	Council Member
David Willard	Council Member
Lou Mahlman	Controller
Jack Cahalan	Township Manager
Leslie Huhn	Assistant Manager

Important Phone Numbers

Emergency	911
Non-Emergency (Police)	610-759-2200
Police Department	610-317-6110
Administrative Offices	610-865-3291
Water/Sewer Authority	610-317-3212

Visit us on the web @
www.lowersaucontownship.org

New Junior Council Representatives

The Township Council was pleasantly surprised with the bumper crop of three (3) new students from Saucon Valley High School who expressed an interest in participating in the Junior Council Person Program during the 2014-15 school year.



The Junior Council Person Program provides an opportunity for high school students to participate in local government and serve as a link between the municipal officials and the student's peers at the high school.

At their September 17, 2014 meeting, the Council designated the students for the following assignments:

Matt Smith, a senior at SVHS who is participating in the program for a second year, will be the representative to the Township Council.

Mikayla Deiter, a senior at SVHS, was appointed as the representative to the Planning Commission.

Kyle Bambu, a junior at SVHS, was appointed as the representative to the Environmental Advisory Council.

Jason Cherry, a sophomore at SVHS, was appointed as the representative to the Parks & Recreation Board.

Meeting Schedule

Council
1st and 3rd Wednesdays - 7:00 p.m.

Parks & Recreation Board
1st Monday - 7:00 p.m.

Environmental Advisory Council
2nd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
4th Thursday - 7:00 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board
3rd Monday - 7:00 p.m.

Lower Saucon Authority
3rd Tuesday - 7:00 p.m.

Office Closed
November 4, 2014 - Election Day
November 27 & 28, 2014 - Thanksgiving
December 25 & 26, 2014 - Christmas
January 1, 2015 - New Year's Day