

A bimonthly publication of the Board of Supervisors

Vol. 19, No. 1

#### WINTER ISSUE

#### **JANUARY 2013**

### Solebury Becomes an Audubon "Bird Town"

"Bird Town."

Environmental Advisory Council (EAC), the Board of Supervisors agreed to add the Township's name to the growing list of Pennsylvania municipalities opting to partner with the state office of the National Audubon Society to promote awareness of the benefits of birds and encourage local action to protect birds

and their habitats. Solebury is Audubon Pennsylvania's 16th Bird Town.

chair of the EAC, "The EAC is looking environmental impacts," the website states.

forward to working with Audubon to make s of Jan. 1, Solebury is officially a Solebury an even more beautiful and environmentally friendly township for both its Responding to a proposal from the two-legged and feathery friends."

ryone is a potential steward of na-

ture in their backyard and beyond."

comes from individuals taking

"The power of Bird Town



BIRD TOWN actions on their landscape and in PENNSYLVANIA their home to be greener, experi-

ence nature every day, and contribute to the According to Widgette Kelly, vice- Township's overall efforts to minimize

(continued on page 6)



#### SOLEBURY POLICE

participated in the federal Drug Enforcement Administration's 5th National Prescription Drug Take-Back September 29, allowing residents to safely surrender expired, unwanted, or unused prescription and over-thecounter medicines for safe destruction by law enforcement. At left, Officer James Boone—standing with Barbara Gross, Community Outreach Coordinator for New Hope-Solebury Cares—hosts a shift at the Giant Food Store. According to Chief Dominick Bellizzie, Bucks County police departments together collected more than 2.5 tons of medications for proper disposal during the event. The next collection will be held April 27.

### **Departments** Hold **Operating Budgets Flat**

n recognition of the ongoing economic climate, Solebury departments have kept their L operating budgets largely at the same levels as 2012, allowing the Township to produce a 2013 budget that requires no property tax increase.

#### Police Dept.

Police Chief Dominic Bellizzie's budget continues to set money aside each year for officer training and the scheduled replacement of vehicles, computers, and radios, but the department budget funds no extraordinary purchases in 2013.

The vehicle replacement schedule allows for the purchase of two vehicles each year, plus extended warranties. These warranties typically expire around the same time the vehicle is scheduled to be replaced.

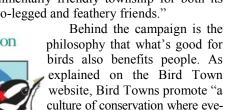
About \$13,500 from the Capital Equipment Fund will be used to address a police safety issue noted by the Township's insurance carrier: The need for new guns and either a new cell door or installation of a window in the existing cell door. Parks & Recreation Dept.

The Township will apply \$20,000 from the Parks & Recreation Capital Fund toward backstops and fencing at Laurel Park and Pat Livezey Park in 2013.

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Audubon



Dear Taxpayer:

Through the **Solebury Messenger**, the Board of Supervisors gives you, the taxpayer, firsthand information about Township matters. In these pages, you will read about what is being done to preserve and improve the quality of life as you know it, as well as how your hard-earned tax dollars are being spent.

The Solebury Messenger is created by Kay Hayes and Marie Collins, of School Window Publications; the newsletter celebrated its 15-year anniversary with the publication of the Nov. 2010 issue.

This bimonthly periodical is primarily ad-sponsored—a method which allows the Township to provide taxpayers with six professional newsletters each year for a fraction of the actual cost. To place an advertisement supporting this periodical, contact Kay at 609-397-8483.

If you live in the Township, but are not currently receiving a copy of the **Solebury Messenger** through the mail, please contact Kay so that she can add your name and address to our mailing list.

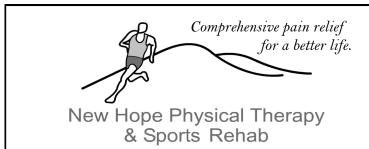
Other correspondence should be directed to the appropriate Township official. For more information, see the Township directory on page 7.

Kay and Marie

Printed on recycled paper by Hermitage Press, Trenton, NJ  $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}}$  School Window Publications

#### A NOTE TO OUR ADVERTISERS

Publication of advertisements in the Solebury Messenger does not represent endorsement by the Township or its officers of any products, services, businesses, or ideas mentioned. Also, no political advertisements will be accepted.



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### Township Calendar

Calendar information is subject to last-minute changes. Confirm all dates and times with the Township office. All meetings are held at Solebury Township Hall.

### January

- 1/7 Board of Supervisors—Reorganization, 7 pm
- 1/7 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
- 1/8Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- 1/14 Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 1/15Board of Supervisors, 7 pm1/15
- 1/17 Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm
- 1/24Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm

### February

- 2/4 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
- 2/5 Board of Supervisors—Budget Session, 7 pm
- 2/11 Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 2/12 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- 2/19 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm
- 2/21 Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm
- 2/28 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm



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## Warm Your Belly at Lambertville-New Hope Winter Festival Food Events

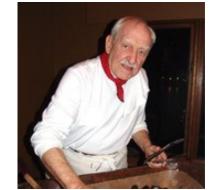
Winter Festival offers many ways for locals and visitors alike to sample the fare of the area's finest restaurants.

Thursday, Jan. 24, Taste of Winter Fest, presented by the Inn at the Lambertville Station, serves up a savory evening of samplings and spirits from river town restaurants and wineries.

Saturday, Jan. 26, the Lambertville-New Hope Rotary Club's Beef 'n Brew presents an afternoon of hot roast beef sandwiches, Triumph brews, and live music.

Sunday, Jan. 27, the 17th Annual Chili

On the Web: winterfestival.net



**LOCAL RESTAURANTER** Jim Hamilton sautés mussels at Taste of Winter Fest 2012.

Cook-Off offers a variety of tasty, tangy chili dishes accompanied by award-winning River Horse Brewery beers and the chance to vote for your favorite chili.

Fine food is also part of the Fire and Ice Ball and the annual Winter Festival Tribute.

Tickets to all events often sell out, so be sure to get them in advance. Details are below and on the Winter Festival website.

While you're ordering yours, consider a donation to the Fisherman's Mark Food Pantry. You can make a cash donation online or drop nonperishable items at many Winter Festival events.

### 2013 Winter Festival Highlights — Jan. 19 to 27

#### FIRE AND ICE BALL

Sat., Jan. 19, 7-11 PM New Hope Borough Community Room Presented by New Hope Chamber of Commerce TICKETS: \$20/\$25 (advance/door)

#### **TASTE OF WINTER FEST**

Thurs., Jan. 24, 7-9 PM The Inn at Lambertville Station A savory evening of fine food and beverages from great local restaurants. TICKETS: \$40 Adults

#### WINTER FESTIVAL CONCERT PURE PRAIRIE LEAGUE

Opener: Very Special Guest Craig Bickhardt Fri., Jan. 25, 8 PM, Steven J. Buck Theater, New Hope-Solebury High School Presented by First National Bank & Trust Company of Newtown TICKETS: \$45/\$50/\$90 (advance/door/VIP)

**Pre-Concert VIP Reception:** Meet & greet the band & light hors d'oeuvres at Nikólas Restaurant at Logan Inn; trolley to concert.

#### A TRIBUTE TO DORO KERR

Sat., Jan. 26, 6:30-10:30 PM Memorable Affairs–Occasions Presented by New Hope Parks & Recreation A sit-down dinner, cocktails, laughs, and memories in honor of a local volunteer. TICKETS: \$85

#### **MUSIC & THEATER PERFORMANCES**

Sat., Jan. 26, 10 AM-3 PM St. John's School A full schedule of family-friendly events! Featuring the PTSO Café in basement. TICKETS: FREE!

#### WINTER FESTIVAL PARADE

Sat., Jan. 26, Noon Bridge Street, New Hope & Lambertville

ROTARY BEEF 'N BREW Sat., Jan. 26, 1-4 PM Triumph Brewing Co. Presented by Lambertville-New Hope Rotary Club Hot roast beef sandwiches & Triumph brews. TICKETS: \$40 Adults

#### PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Sun., Jan. 27, 8-11:30 AM New Hope-Solebury High School cafeteria Presented by the New Hope-Solebury Girls Soccer Team Includes children's activities & snow folk art hosted by Solebury Parks & Recreation. TICKETS: All You Can Eat! \$6.50 Adults \$5 Seniors / \$3.50 Children 3-12



#### 17th ANNUAL CHILI COOK-OFF

Sun., Jan. 27, 1-4 PM Memorable Affairs–Occasions Presented by River Horse Brewery Chili prepared by area restaurants, with award-winning River Horse Brewery beers. \$50 Adults / \$45 Under 21 or No Alcohol (includes commemorative pint glass)

PURCHASE TICKETS, FIND MORE EVENTS, AND GET OTHER EVENT DETAILS AT: WWW. WINTERFESTIVAL.NET

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Solebury Resident

### Historical Society Settles Into One-Room Schoolhouse

he New Hope-Solebury School District recently transferred ownership of the historic one-room schoolhouse at Sugan Peak is named, attended the one-room schoolhouse. Road and Upper York Road in Solebury Village to the Solebury Township Historical Society.

The society has leased the building since 2007 and completed interior renovations in 2008. Since then the organization established 1870 the school was in the possession of the Solebury Township an extensive research library there.

"We are so excited to have ownership of this historic schoolhouse," said Donneta Crane, president of the society.

She noted that the organization is committed to restoring and preserving the structure. "We are grateful that the school district recognized the importance of preserving this township icon by entrusting it to our care," she added.

"We are pleased to transfer ownership of this historic building to the Solebury Township Historical Society," New Hope-Solebury School Board President Amanda Elefante commented. "Being able to ensure the viability of the schoolhouse as a com-

munity resource was a critical aspect of our decision as a Board." A Rich History

The one-room schoolhouse was the first school built in Solebury Township and has a rich history.

In 1755, Samuel Eastburn sold the half-acre lot on which the school was built to Buckingham Friends Meeting.



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Small (1 <sup>1</sup> /2"-by-2 <sup>1</sup> /2")	\$100
(see examples on p. 8)	
Medium (2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> "-by-2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> ")	\$125
(see examples on p. 8)	
Large (1/8 page)	\$150
(see examples on pp. 3, 5, 6, 8)	
X-Large (1/4 page)	\$300
(see examples on pp. 2, 4)	
Special Insert	\$650
(see example inside this issue)	

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During the 1780s, Zebulon Pike, the explorer for whom Pike's

It was reconstructed in 1810 and again in 1870, both as a result of fires.

In 1812, Solebury Friends Meeting took over the school, and by

School District.

It remained in operation as a one-room schoolhouse until 1938, when a larger elementary school was built, then continued to house first graders until the early 1950s, when new rooms were added to the 1938 school building.

Solebury Township held municipal meetings in the schoolhouse until 1959.

It was then used as the elementary school library.

After the library was moved to the elementary school in 1976, the schoolhouse was used for special education classes until the early 1990s.

The schoolhouse then served as

a storage facility for the school district until it was leased to the Historical Society in 2007.

The schoolhouse is open to the public for research on Wednesdays from 3-5 PM or by appointment.

For more information, visit soleburyhistory.org or email soleburyhistory@verizon.net. 🍋



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### Damage Caused by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee: One Year Later

THEN:

NOW:



**ARMITAGE ROAD**, which overlooks Cuttalossa Valley, was closed in the fall of 2011 until extensive repairs could be made to the roadbed (*left*). The one-two punch of Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee ripped away entire chunks of roadbed and destabilized the road's footing along the hillside. Now the road is open again (*right*). A new concrete retaining wall that extends below the roadbed ensures it is safe for travel.

NOW:

THEN:



**THE STONE ARCH BRIDGE** on Covered Bridge Road between Aquetong and Pidcock Creek Roads was also closed in the fall of 2011 until the bridge could be replaced (*left*). The 2011 storms washed away so much of the streambed that the stream flowed *under* the bridge walls and caused one of the walls to collapse. The new bridge (*right*) is now open.



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### Bird Town

( continued from page 1 )

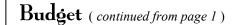
Audubon provides Bird Towns with resources that (1) teach residents about birds that live in or regularly pass through their communities, (2) enable individuals to create healthy backyard habitats that attract birds, and (3) enlist resident volunteers in participating in Audubon bird surveys.

The EAC plans to work with Audubon to highlight the Township's ecological resources, Kelly said. For example, the Township organization will partner with the Bucks County Audubon Society to create workshops and other means of helping property owners get to know the birds in their backyards.

"Birds are natural indicators of ecological health," said Steven Saffier, who manages the Audubon Bird Town program. "Small steps in a backyard can increase the diversity of birds and at the same time create a healthier living environment for people and pets. With our incredible partners in Solebury, residents will surely hear more about their role in the lives of birds. I'm confident that they will be amazed to find out what birds come through this area as part of the Atlantic Flyway ... the superhighway of bird migration."

Stay tuned! More information and resources will be provided in the Solebury Messenger and on the Township website in the coming months.

In the meantime, to learn more about what it means to be a Bird Town, visit: http://pa.audubon.org/bird-town 🍋



planned \$20,000 expenditure on turf manage- additional \$90,000 of road resurfacing in ment, which is reflected in the department 2013. budget.

budget is less than 1% of the overall Town- Township traffic signals in 2013—fail safes ship budget and is offset by Summer Adven- against future power outages-for a total of ture Camp revenues as well as numerous about \$8,000. fundraising activities run by volunteers.

Rice reported that community volunteers and paving in 2013. local partnerships contributed to the department's success in 2012.

District, which provided facilities for the prioritized list for future repairs. Township's 2012 Summer Adventure Camp: Administration Dept. the Lambertville-New Hope Winter Festival, which supports several local organizations in 2013 budget will fund several items from the addition to Solebury Parks and Recreation; Natural Resource Preservation Fund in the and individual sports organizations.

allow the department to provide the community with free programs, like AED/CPR certification and Halloween Safety Awareness, while individual sports organizations are a Town program. source of volunteers and raise money to support their teams and park facilities-all of tion to the Lambertville-New Hope Ambuwhich are vital to the health of the Township lance and Rescue Squad at \$17,500 this year, athletic program.

parks and recreation activities each year.

In addition, adults participate in basketball, soccer, and softball programs.

#### Public Works Dept.

Dennis Carney-also the Township Manag- Senior Citizens (\$500), and Phillips Mill er-an increase in Highway Aid Fund reve- Community Association (\$375).





Our offices are also providers for many of the same vision plans offered at the majority of retail eye centers.



These two parks will also benefit from a nue will allow the Township to complete an

The department will purchase a gas-The 2013 Parks & Recreation Dept. powered post driver and gas generators for

Approximately \$150,000 of the Roads Parks & Recreation Director Dudley and Bridges Fund will be applied to road

As Township Roadmaster, Dennis will inspect all of the Township's bridges with Key partners include the NH-S School the Township Engineer in 2013 and create a

The Township Manager noted that the new year, including a \$5,000 watershed Summer camp and Winter Festival funds study, an \$8,000 Act 537 update, \$15,000 worth of stormwater outfall repairs and upgrades, \$1,000 for the planting of trees, and \$840 for enrollment in the Audubon Bird

The Township will maintain its contribuwhile increasing its contribution to the Cen-More than 800 children participate in tral Bucks Ambulance and Rescue Unit from \$3.000 to \$13.000.

The Township will support other local nonprofits at 2012 levels, including the Bucks County SPCA (\$1,250), Central According to Public Works Director Bucks Senior Citizens (\$500), New Hope



# Township Directory

P.O. Box 139, Solebury, PA 18963 soleburytwp.org

In an emergency, please dial: **9-1-1.** For other matters, call: 215-297-5656

The following individuals can be reached by email: Township Manager Dennis H. Carney: soleburymanager@soleburytwp.org

Asst. Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Zoning Officer Gretchen Rice: grice@soleburytwp.org

HARB Administrator, Environmental Advisory Council Secretary Christine Terranova: cterranova@soleburytwp.org

Admin. Asst., LPC Administrator, Planning Commission Administrator Jean Weiss: jweiss@soleburytwp.org

> Parks & Recreation Director Dudley Rice: soleburyparks@soleburytwp.org

Right-To-Know Officer, Administrative Records Asst. Twp. Manager Gretchen K. Rice soleburymanager@soleburytwp.org

Right-To-Know Officer, Police Records Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie police@soleburypd.org

Unsure where to direct your question? Email: soleburytownship@soleburytwp.org You can direct your query to a specific individual or write a general query. The appropriate individual will respond.



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Upcoming Events

WINTER FESTIVAL

January 19-27

On the Web: www.winterfestival.net



Baseball and softball online registration has started. Go to the baseball website, below, and click this link:



To keep abreast of local sports news, visit these websites:

www.soleburytwp.org (Parks & Recreation tab) www.soleburybaseball.org (baseball) www.soleburybasketball.org (basketball) www.tcteams.com/nhspopwarner (football) www.tcteams.com/solebury (soccer) www.soleburywrestling.com (wrestling)

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The next Solebury Messenger will mail on March 7.



Deadline for ads is February 9.



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