Solebury Messenger

A bimonthly publication of Solebury Township

Vol. 20. No. 4

SUMMER ISSUE

JULY 2014

Solebury Moves Forward on Public Works Improvements

and equipment to the limit, the Board of Supervisors decided in May to move existing facility. Whether the water is the sharply from late August through September, forward with upgrading Solebury's Public Works facilities and hired an architect to draw up possible plans.

Public Works building has been a topic of management of runoff in mind. discussion at Board of Supervisors meetings with public input for over a decade.

major improvements to the facilities were needed, previous plans failed to win approval until questions about cost, location, and other department needs could be resolved.

"After all of the extreme weather events this past decade, and listening to residents' concerns during the winter storms, we determined that this was a good time to take another look at our facilities and what improvements we can make," Supervisor Chair Jim Searing explained.

The Township's road maintenance and Department facilities. snow removal equipment are currently housed in a roughly 50-year-old garage located pre-bid materials for construction is \$118,000. behind Township Hall.

"The facilities we have now are very limited," Township Manager and Roadmaster Dennis Carney said. "Keeping our equipment well maintained is critical to keeping our costs down and efficiency up. Right now, we just don't have the space inside the garage—

There is still room! SUMMER ADVENTURE **CAMP 2014**



June 30 - August 8 NH-S Upper Elementary School (See page 7 for more info.)

fter a long and difficult winter season especially in the middle of a snow or ice storm that pushed Township road crews when our equipment is needed most."

result of rainstorms, hosing-down a salt truck which is usually when we in the North Atlanin winter, or changing the oil on a tractor- tic region feel the brunt of storms that travel mower in the summer, Dennis said the 1970s- this far. The expansion and relocation of the era garage just wasn't designed with the

Any new facility will have built-in hurricane-related problem strikes. stormwater management systems, he said, as While there was strong agreement that these are in keeping with Solebury's the options below as you prefer. longstanding efforts to protect the Township's ReadyNotifyPA.org water resources.

> Donovan Architects will develop plans for a the warnings are issued only for true emernew, one-story, 16,000-square-foot facility on gencies. unused, Township-owned land next to Township Hall.

> The new facility will be designed to fit in exactly how you want to be notified. with the surrounding buildings, Dennis noted. Solebury Email Alerts The firm will also look at ways to re-use a portion of the existing garage for Police closings, Police Dept. warnings, changes in

maintenance, increase efficiency, and add Alerts." more years of service to our equipment-built to the latest environmental standards on land You can unsubscribe at any time. already designated for Township facilitieswill be a good investment that pays well into the future," Jim projected. 🍋

What's Inside?

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Hurricane Season Arrives

Sign Up for Emergency Notifications Now

The Atlantic hurricane season officially Water runoff is another issue with the runs from June 1 to November 30, but peaks

> Make sure you're signed up for the emergency notifications you need before a

> You can sign up for as few or many of

Use this website to ensure you receive The Bedminster-based firm Phillip & Weather Warnings issued by the Township;

> If you wish, you can choose additional notification options. And you can specify

Township email alerts announce road meeting times and locations, articles posted The budget for designs, oversight, and on the Township website, and more.

To sign up, visit SoleburyTwp.org, click "A new facility that allows us to improve the News tab, then click the words "Email

Enter your email address to subscribe.

Follow Police on Social Media

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Dear Taxpayer:

Through the Solebury Messenger, the Township 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 (609-397-8483 or ads.schoolwindow@gmail.com).

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 Maríe

Printed on recycled paper by Hermitage Press, Trenton, NJ $^{
m C}$ 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.

July

- HOLIDAY-TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED 7/4
- 7/7 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
- 7/8 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- 7/14Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 7/15 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm 7/17
- Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm 7/24
 - Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm

August

- Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm 8/4
- 8/11 Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 8/12 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- Board of Supervisors, 7 pm 8/19
- 8/21 Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm
- 8/28 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm



Stay on top of meeting times with email alerts!

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On-Site Drug Collection in Police Dept. Lobby a Success

lizzie reports that residents site drug collection box the de- leading cause of accidental poipartment installed in its lobby at soning, and flushed or trashed the end of March to safely dis- medicines can end up polluting pose of their expired, unwanted, our waters." or unused over-the-counter and prescription medicines, including law enforcement prevents envicontrolled substances.

channel the drugs for environ- dental ingestion by children and mentally friendly disposal.

in place, the department plans to lying around homes. continue holding one-day collection drives each spring and fall, Barbara Gross raised matching as it has since the federal Drug funds for the roughly \$700 col-Enforcement (DEA) spearheaded the national County District Attorney's office prescription-drug take-back cam- and arranged the purchase of the paign four years ago.

"The one-day events are convenient for our residents," Chief (shown below) is accessible Bellizzie said. "They give us a Monday through Friday from chance to remind the public that 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in the Police these substances should not be Department lobby at Township discarded other ways and pose a Hall.

olice Chief Dominick Bel- risk if left in medicine chests."

According to the DEA webhave begun using the on- site, "Medicines in the home are a

Collection and disposal by ronmental contamination, the After collecting them, police dangerous consequences of accipets, and the potential abuse that Even with the permanent box can occur when drugs are left

> NHS Cares Project Director Administration lection unit from the Bucks box for police.

> > Solebury's MedReturn box



What Can I Deposit in Solebury's MedReturn Box?

Use Solebury's MedReturn box to dispose of:

- Solid prescription and over-the-counter medicines (e.g., capsules, pills)
- Liquid prescription and over-the-counter medicines
- Prescription and over-the-counter inhalers, creams, ointments, and sprays
- Pet medications

Do not bring:

- Injectables or needles
- Illicit substances, like marijuana or methamphetamine



SOLEBURY POLICE collected 82.5 pounds of medications during the federal Drug Enforcement Administration's 7th national Medication Take-Back April 26. Above, Detective Roy Ferrari hosts a shift at the Giant Food Store with NHS Cares Project Director Barbara Gross. According to Chief Bellizzie, Bucks County police departments sent 3.25 tons of medications for safe disposal after the event. About half was deposited in the county's growing number of permanent collection boxes, like Solebury's—a sign that residents are beginning to use these routinely.



INTIMATE EVENTS

River View from Every Room

3690 RIVER ROAD, LUMBERVILLE 215-297-5661 www.1740House.com INNKEEPER@1740HOUSE.COM

HOPEWELL& LAMBERTVILLE EYE ASSOCIATES NJ 4913 Treatment and Management of Eye Diseases & Disorders www.seelife.net)

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K. Daniels, OD., FAAO. And Associates Academic Faculty At The Penn. College Of Optometry Book Author: Contact Lens, Refractive Surgery, Dry Eye, & Presbyopia **Difficult Contact Lens Fittings - Laser Vision Co-management** Dry Eye Treatment - Children's Vision - Corneal Reshaping Surgical Staff Affiliated With Wills Eye Group In Princeton

Majority Of Vision Plans And Medical Insurances Accepted Our Offices Are Also Providers For Many Of The Same Vision Plans Offered At The Majority Of Retail Eye Centers



3

Township to Breach Ingham Spring Dam

Aquetong Creek Expected to Revert to Earlier State

earthen dam that was built on the eastern end about 80 feet of wetlands to the western est in the state. It flows at rate of about 2,000 of the 48-acre site in 1870 to create a 15-acre shoreline. lake that initially powered a mill and supported a fish hatchery.

Background

The Township began negotiating for ownership of the historic Ingham Spring property in the mid-1990s-just a few years after the Pa. Fish and Boat Commission acquired the property from its last private owners. It took almost 15 vears to achieve, but Solebury proudly acquired the title to the property in 2009.

question The of whether the earthen dam should be restored or removed was on the table throughout this lengthy history, as repairing the dam would be costly (estimates exceeded \$1 million) and might not be the best environmental choice.

Around 1996, Fish and Boat completed emergency repairs to the dam by removing ap-

• olebury is about to embark on a major proximately six feet of the outlet structure. 1600s, the coldwater limestone spring is the milestone in the history of Ingham This took pressure off the aging barrier, but largest of its kind in the five-county region Spring Park: The breaching of the also lowered the level of the lake, adding surrounding Philadelphia and one of the larg-

> The Township's goal has always been to of Aquetong Creek. preserve this critical natural resource. A sa- The Plan cred site for the Lenni Lenapes since the early

gallons per minute and forms the headwaters

Since becoming stewards of the property,



STREAM RESTORATION PROJECT: Once the lake at Ingham Spring Park is drained and the dam that created the lake is breached, Ingham Spring (shown in the southwest quadrant of the map) will feed a headwater stream (Aquetong Creek) that flows from west to east through the floodplain where the lake once was. A tributary traveling in a southeasterly direction (shown at the top of the map), which originates in the Fox Run Development, will merge with Aguetong Creek east of the breach, and the combined waterway will flow toward the Delaware River. The path the streams take on their own is expected to approximate the way they flowed 150 years ago. One predicted impact is a healthy cooling of the waters of Aquetong Creek. Future issues of the Solebury Messenger will report on the progress of the project.

Solebury has consulted with a wide range of state and environmental experts and met with community groups to discuss the best way to proceed with regard to the dam.

The overwhelming consensus emerging from this five-year conversation led the Township toward an eventual decision to breach rather than restore the dam.

"The lake warms the naturally cold spring water that eventually enters Aquetong Creek," Dennis explained. "That's not healthy for the creek. Draining the lake should lower the temperature of the creek, which is better for the species that live in it. It may even positively impact the health of the Delaware River."

> DEP permits for the (cont. on page 5)



Do You Have an Idea You Would Like to Offer to the Township?

Solebury Township welcomes suggestions from residents. Visit our website and click on the Suggestion Box photo.

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Planning an Addition or Renovation? Be smart: Talk to the Township first. We can help you navigate the Township's forms,

approval process, codes, and zoning regulations. Getting it right the first time could save you time and money.





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Serving the

community

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Bedminster Conservancy Strives to Increase Land Preservation

Your Support Is Needed

unteer, nonprofit organization established for the purpose of protecting and preserving the agricultural heritage and rural it by serving on boards and committees and lifestyle that make Bucks County such an attractive and desirable place to live.

"We are your conservancy, Solebury," Conservancy President Eve Marschark said—a reference to the fact that Solebury was the first township to enter into an agreement with the organization in 2001.

Today the group oversees the conservation easements of 63 preserved Solebury properties totaling more than 2,500 acres, while also protecting preserved properties in four other communities.

Solebury's preserved lands represent more than half of the total for which the conservancy is currently responsible.

"Solebury is a genuine treasure," Ms. Marschark said. "We are doing our best to preserve it forever."

Increasing Preservation

Bedminster Conservancy's mission is protecting Bucks County agricultural, natural, and scenic lands, and "our goal is to preserve more land throughout the region," Ms. Marschark said.

To do this the organization needs to convince more landowners to consider placing conservation easements on their properties, and must raise funds to support its edu-

he Bedminster Regional Land Con- cation and outreach efforts, she said. In addiservancy is a grassroots, mostly vol- tion, the conservancy must attract more volunteers to support its growth.

Volunteers play key roles in the nonprofworking as property monitors, she explained.

A team of trained volunteers visits each preserved property once a year to review the status of the parcel's preserved features, answer questions, and provide any stewardship assistance needed by landowners.

These crucial visits ensure that every preserved property continues to be protected in the manner that was intended by the landowner and municipality, as documented in its conservation easement.

How Can I Help?

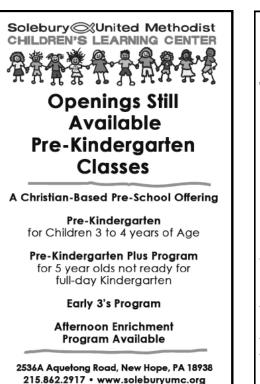
Township residents who wish to help can learn more about how the conservancy is working to further its mission by visiting the Bedminster Conservancy website: www.bedminsterlandconservancy.org

Among other things, the

site's "Preserving Your Land" tab provides preliminary information for landowners who wish to explore the benefits of preservation.

The "Join & Support" tab offers multiple levels of conservancy membership, branded merchandise for sale, and information about how to volunteer or donate.

Interested volunteers may also phone the organization at 215-795-2352. 🍋





Ingham Spring Dam

(continued from previous page)

work are expected by late summer, he said. At that point, the Township will slowly empty the lake by pumping out more water per day than the spring currently pumps into it.

Once drained, 100-feet of width will be excavated from the south end of the dam.

Right now, water from the lake flows over the north side of the dam, then follows a path south and east as Aquetong Creek, soon merging with another tributary and flowing as one toward the Delaware River.

After the breach, the spring-fed Aquetong Creek will flow through the breached south end of the dam, merge with the tributary at this new point, and flow east toward the river.

Immediately after the lake is drained, the muddy bottom will be seeded with a mix of grasses and wildflowers to stabilize drainage toward the stream and prevent erosion.

A few months later, the Township will plant trees in areas that have begun to stabilize.

The Vision

Aside from the act of breaching the dam, the process of restoring the streams to the state they were in 150 years ago is a passive process that will be directed by the streams themselves.

Since the underground source of the spring is largely uncharted, once the lake is drained, other springs may pop up on the property where the lake is now, Dennis said.



Police Urge Caution Around Motorcycles

• he return of warm weather also brings the usual increase in the number of motorcycles on Township roads.

To help avoid accidents and injuries, the Solebury Police Dept. urges residents to be cautious when sharing the road with motorcycles-particularly when turning onto Township roads from blind driveways and intersections.

"Motorcycles are sometimes difficult to see and extra caution must be taken," noted Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie.

"Noise is another problem related to motorcycles at this time of year," he said. "The police department will be vigilant and will do everything legally possible to ensure that all motorcycles operated in the Township have proper muffler systems."

Residents who have particular concerns or questions about motorcycles may contact the Solebury Township Police department at 215-297-8201.

2014 Household Hazardous Waste **E-Waste Recycling Events**

HAZARDOUS WASTE ONLY	July 19	Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Rd., Warrington
ELECTRONIC WASTE ONLY	July 26	Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Rd., Warrington
HAZARDOUS & ELECTRONIC WASTE	August 16	Quakertown Community High School 600 Park Ave. (Rear Lot), Quakertown
HAZARDOUS & ELECTRONIC WASTE	August 23	Bucks County Technical High School 610 Wistar Rd., Bristol

These events are not open to business, industry, or institutions. Each event is held, rain or shine, from 9AM-3PM.

To learn what you can and cannot bring:

Visit: www.buckscounty.org/recycling

Call the PA DEP Recycling Hotline: 1-800-346-4242

Call the Bucks County Planning Commission: 215-345-3400

Ingham Spring Dam (continued from previous page)

This could influence where the stream and poten- for passive recreation as well as historical and entially a pond or pool finally establish themselves.

"We really want to embrace the water taking we think we'd like it to take a particular course, after a couple of rainstorms, it will just go back where it wants to be."

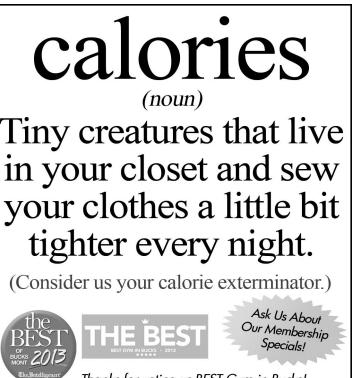
acres of new parkland to the site, which is slated will describe the lake that once was.

vironmental education.

"We want to make this someplace you can its own course," he stated. "No matter how much come and fly fish and catch trout and see things the way they were before the lake was created," Dennis projected.

Even what remains of the breached dam will Draining the 14-acre lake could add up to 13 provide interest, thanks to planned signage that





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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.



Parks and Recreation Dept.

Upcoming Events

There is still room!

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP 2014



June 30 - August 8 NH-S Upper Elementary School 180 West Bridge St., New Hope

Download registration forms at: www.soleburytwp.org (Click the Parks & Recreation tab, click "Documents & Forms," then click "Summer Camp 2014 Registration Form"). Forms are also available at Township Hall during normal business hours.

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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