



The Solebury Messenger

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Summer Issue

June 2018

John Francis is the newest member of the Board of Supervisors *He will serve out the unexpired term of newly-elected state Rep. Helen Tai*

The Solebury Township Board of Supervisors selected John Francis to serve the remainder of Helen Tai's term on the Board at its June 19 meeting. Tai won the May special election to represent Pennsylvania's 178th District in the state House, requiring her to resign her local office.

Francis moved to Solebury four years ago and quickly took an active role in the community, serving on Solebury Township's Environmental Advisory Committee and Zoning Hearing Board. He is currently president of the Primrose Creek Watershed Association. Born in England, Francis moved to the U.S. in 1993 and gained citizenship in 2006. He is a consulting commercial interior designer.

"Understanding the broad concerns of the community will be a top priority for me," Francis said. "I believe that my experience in architecture, design and project management will serve me

well in making a meaningful contribution and I'm honored to be able to continue the outstanding work of the board to preserve and improve Solebury and the local environment."



Supervisor John Francis.

Helen Tai was sworn in as state representative on June 5, after winning a special election to fill the unexpired term of Scott Petri, who resigned to become the executive director of the Philadelphia

Parking Authority. She is seeking her first full term in the seat on this November's ballot.

"Five years ago, I ran for supervisor because I realized that Solebury was only the wonderful place it is because of the many dedicated, hard-working people who devoted their time to keeping it that way," Tai said. "There are many forces out there who want to turn Solebury into another strip mall and housing development suburb. So I did my part to 'Keep the Soul in Solebury.'"

"It has been a great honor to be your township Supervisor

for the last 4.5 years, and I look forward to serving you in a different way in my new role as State Representative," Tai said in a social media post after the election. "Please don't be a stranger – although I will be traveling back and forth to Harrisburg, I will still be in Solebury most of the time."

Increased transparency through better communication, protection of the environment and improvements to the permitting process are among the accomplishments Tai said that she was proud to be a



State Rep. Helen Tai takes her seat in Harrisburg.

part of during her tenure on the Board.

The timing of the special election and Tai's resignation will allow Francis to serve the remaining 18 months of Tai's six-year term.

What's in Your Inbox?

Meeting agendas, police alerts, weather bulletins and more are available by email. Visit SoleburyTwp.org and click "Email Notices."

Free Library of New Hope and Solebury celebrates its centennial

The library threw a party to commemorate its first hundred years and kick-off its next century of service to the community on June 3, with live music, cake, face painting and magic.

More than just a place to check out books, the library's mission is to share knowledge and enrich lives throughout Solebury and New Hope.



Township Directory

Emergency? Dial: 9-1-1. Nonemergency? Call: 215-297-5656.
General Inquiries: soleburytownship@soleburytwp.org

Township Manager Dennis H. Carney:
soleburymanager@soleburytwp.org

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

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

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

Right-To-Know Officers

Administrative Records:
soleburymanager@soleburytwp.org

Police Records: Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie,
police@soleburypd.org

Board of Supervisors

Chair Mark Baum Baicker mbaumbaicker@soleburytwp.org **Vice-Chair Kevin Morrissey** kmorrissey@soleburytwp.org

Supervisor Noel Barrett nbarrett@soleburytwp.org **Supervisor Robert A. McEwan** rmcewan@soleburytwp.org

Supervisor John Francis

Township Calendar

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

June

6/21 Parks and Recreation Board
6/21 Land Preservation Committee
6/25 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee
6/26 Subcommittee of Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee
3/15 Land Preservation Committee

July

7/9 Planning Commission
7/10 Environmental Advisory Council
7/17 Board of Supervisors
7/19 Land Preservation Committee
7/26 Parks and Recreation Board
7/30 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee
7/31 Subcommittee of Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee

August

8/6 Historical Architectural Review Board
8/13 Planning Commission
8/14 Environmental Advisory Council
8/14 Board of Supervisors
8/16 Land Preservation Committee
8/23 Parks and Recreation Board
8/27 Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee
8/28 Solebury Farm Committee

*Stay on top of meeting times with email alerts!
Visit: SoleburyTwp.org, click "Email Notices"
and enter your email address.*

Be prepared: Atlantic Hurricane Season is here

Every preparedness checklist, including the ones below, advise you to stock up on plenty of water for drinking and washing. This is especially important in Solebury, where most residents get their water from wells, and when the power goes out the well pump stops working.

But how much water, and how to store it?

Standard emergency guidelines suggest storing one gallon

of drinking water per day for each person and pet, for at least three days and up to two weeks.

Store the water in clean, screw-top plastic containers. Wash them out with warm, soapy water. Sanitize them by adding a teaspoon of bleach to a quart of water, shake well and let sit for two minutes before emptying and rinsing out.

Fill the bottles or jugs with water from the tap, cap tightly, and label each container with "Drinking Water" and the date it was filled. Store the water in a dark, dry, cool place for up to six months.

What to do before the storm...

- ☁ Fill your car with gas (and fill an appropriately sized gas can if using a generator).
- ☁ Withdraw cash in case ATMs are not working after the storm.
- ☁ Fill any prescriptions you may need if you are running low.
- ☁ Plug in a standard non-cordless phone to receive and make emergency calls. Charge your cellphone, smart phone, and/or tablet and locate your car chargers.
- ☁ Place flashlights or battery-operated lanterns, plus fresh batteries, on each floor of your home.
- ☁ Store water for cooking and cleaning. Fill bathtubs with water for flushing.
- ☁ Set up a battery-powered clock and radio.
- ☁ Locate your supply of bottled water and easy-to-prepare, non-perishable foods, including pet food.
- ☁ Protect sensitive electronic appliances, like microwave ovens, TVs, and computers with surge suppressors, which can prevent damage from surges related to lightning, fallen poles, and other accidents. Alternatively, unplug them before a storm.
- ☁ Freeze and refrigerate bottles of water to occupy more space. (A partially full freezer can keep meat frozen for up to 24 hours - completely full, up to 48 hours.)
- ☁ Place your "go" bags and pet supplies in the car, and pet carriers near the door.
- ☁ If you plan to use a generator, set it up outside, close windows to prevent exhaust entering your home, and test any battery-operated CO detectors you installed.
- ☁ Secure lawn furniture, trash cans, and other light objects in case of high winds.

During the storm...

- ⚡ Avoid using candles but if you do, never leave them unattended.
- ⚡ Check the fuse or circuit breaker box to see if a fuse tripped inside the home.

Check with the neighbors to see if their power is out, too.
- ⚡ If you see downed lines and the ground is wet or has standing water, do not go outside. Keep children and pets away from the area.
- ⚡ Call PECO at the number above and report the outage through their automated, interactive system. Outages can also be reported online. Ask to speak with a PECO customer service representative to report downed poles or wires, but don't approach or look for these. Energized power lines are extremely dangerous.
- ⚡ Stay away from windows, where flying debris can cause injury.
- ⚡ Do not use a landline phone or run water during lightning storms.
- ⚡ Turn off and unplug appliances - including your furnace, water heater, and water pump - to prevent an electrical overload when power is restored, but keep a couple of lights turned on so you'll know when service is back.
- ⚡ Keep refrigerator and freezer doors closed as much as possible. Move meats, cheese, milk, and other perishables into the freezer compartment where it will stay colder longer.

Storm Outage Contacts

PECO 1-800-841-4141 or www.peco.com/Outages/CheckOutageStatus/Pages/OutageMap.aspx

Verizon 1-800-837-4966 or www.verizon.com/support/residential/service-outage

XFINITY (Comcast) 1-800-934-6489 or www.xfinity.com/support/status

Million dollar state grant helps fund Aquetong Spring Park

The completion of the Route 202 Trail in Aquetong Spring Park will be funded in part by a \$1 million grant from the state Department of Transportation. PennDOT's Transportation Alternatives Set-Aside program helps pay for pedestrian and bicycle trails, and the Aquetong Spring Park trail is one of 82 qualifying projects across Pennsylvania.

The Aquetong trail will run alongside Route 202 from the northern border of the park to the parking lot on Lower Mountain Road, part of a larger plan to complete the Route 202 Cross-County Trail. The TA Set-Aside grant, along with other grants and Township matching funds,

will cover the cost of this \$1.6 million project.

Aquetong Spring and its environs are one of Solebury's most important natural resources, encompassing the history, culture and natural beauty of the township. For well over two decades, Solebury residents, volunteer committees and township supervisors have dedicated their efforts to the restoration of Aquetong creek and stewardship of the historic spring.

Since acquiring the land from the state in 2009, Solebury removed a dilapidated civil war era dam and began restoring the stream flow and creek bed to their natural state. The

Aquetong Spring Park project aims to restore native plants to the area and create many opportunities to bring people into the restored environment through an extensive trail system.

The Route 202 trail is part of the comprehensive plan for passive recreation for the park, which envisions an extensive trail system with ADA-compliant and natural mulched walking paths, picnic areas, a living classroom, and other natural activities.

You can stay up to date on this ongoing project by visiting the Aquetong Spring Advisory Committee's page on the township website.

“TONKA”—a new sculpture installation—arrives at Magill’s Hill Park

“TONKA,” the creation of Lambertville sculptor Harry H. Gordon, was installed at Magill’s Hill Park on Saturday, May 26, 2018. Harry, his wife Wendy and crew worked for many hours in 100 degree heat to make this a reality for our community park.

The project was coordinated by Dudley Rice, Director of Parks and Recreation for Solebury Township, New Hope Arts Director Carol Cruickshanks, and Harry and Wendy Gordon.

The new sculpture expands the reach of the celebrated outdoor exhibition administered by New Hope Arts, in cooperation with the PNC Foundation and its Arts Alive Program.



Countywide Spotted Lanternfly quarrantine: How you can help to keep this dangerous pest in check

The Spotted Lanternfly, a pest that poses a significant threat to the grape, apple, and stone fruit industries, has spread throughout southeastern Pennsylvania and led the state to place 13 counties under quarantine, including Bucks County.

All of Bucks County, including Solebury Township, is inside the quarantine area. The purpose of the quarantine is to stop the spread of this pest into the rest of Pennsylvania and to slow its devastation where it is already present. The quarantine mostly affects the movement of a variety of plant, wood and stone products, where the spotted lanternfly lays its eggs and nurtures its brood.

For residents, this means making sure that spotted lanternflies aren't hitching a ride on our vehicles, camping gear or outdoor equipment



when we travel. The simplest step to take is to avoid parking or storing items under trees in infested areas. Park your car in open fields, away from tree lines or in a closed garage. Firewood, tools, construction supplies or any other solid object should be stored out from under trees or in a shed.

If you are planning a trip with anything that's been stored outside, use the Spotted

Lanternfly Checklist from the PA Agriculture website (www.agriculture.pa.gov/spottedlanternfly) to be sure you don't have any six-legged hitchhikers.

For businesses, an annual permit from the state Department of Agriculture is required if your work involves transporting goods or

materials that may carry or spread spotted lanternflies. Pennsylvania has recently revised its quarantine order to make the permitting process less cumbersome—training materials and the permit application are all available online—allowing businesses to fit training and testing into their work schedules and reducing the paperwork involved. You can read more

about the business requirements in the quarantine and access training, testing

and permit application materials on the Department of Agriculture website.

To learn more about these pests, go to the Department of Agriculture's website, and check out information available from the Penn State Extension at <https://extension.psu.edu/shopyby/spotted-lanternfly>.



Solebury can help speed up your summertime home improvement project

Homeowners in Solebury's historic districts are discovering the ease and convenience of the Township's new fast-track program for repair and replacement in-kind. The streamlined process offers a simple form, \$10 fee and five-day review for home maintenance projects that preserve the existing appearance, color, texture and other characteristics of the original work.

"Everyone should know how easy this is," emailed one longtime Carversville resident,

"as long as you provide the details asked for. For painting we are doing the exact same color and had to give the type, kind, color and sample paint we are using. It was approved in five days. It was easy and much appreciated."

The RRIK program was developed in the Historical Architectural Review Board and adopted as an ordinance by the Board of Supervisors last fall. The application form is available from the HARB page of the Township website.

The architecture, design and

character of our historic homes and villages are quintessential Solebury qualities. The Township is dedicated to preserving its history, which starts with making it easier for homeowners to make repairs on their property that maintain its historic attributes.

If you live in an historic district and are considering an in-kind repair or in-kind replacement on your home, call the Township office and see if you qualify for the RRIK program.

Household Waste Recycling Bucks County Spring/Summer Schedule

Bucks County is hosting three more household hazardous waste recycling events this spring and summer, in Warrington, Bristol and Richland townships.

Pesticides, paints, weed killer—toxic chemicals are found in many household products, and when they are no longer needed they need to be disposed of safely. Every year the county sponsors recycling events for residents to responsibly discard these hazardous materials.

June 23, 2018

Central Bucks
Central Bucks South High School
1100 Folly Road
Warrington Township

July 7, 2018

Upper Bucks
Strayer Middle School
1200 Ronald Reagan Drive, Quakertown
Richland Township

August 25, 2018

Lower Bucks
Bucks County Technical High School
610 Wistar Road
Bristol Township

Please note that no electronics, including televisions and computers, will be accepted this year due to a change in state law. This program is available to residents only; no material will be accepted from businesses, industry or institutions.



THE SOLEBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT INVITES YOU TO
SHARE AN EVENING IN THE PARK WITH YOUR LOCAL
OFFICERS FOR 2018 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT .

ARRIVE AT 7PM TO SEE POLICE EQUIPMENT, DUNK TANK WITH
OFFICERS, GRAB SOME POPCORN AND A GOOD SEAT. BRING YOUR OWN
BLANKETS OR CHAIR. MOVIE WILL START AT 8PM. ALL ARE WELCOME
TO ATTEND.

SPONSORED BY
THE SOLEBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT



Solebury
a natural choice