A bimonthly publication of the Board of Supervisors

Solebury Messenger

Vol. 18, No. 5

#### LATE SUMMER ISSUE

## Did You Know? Pa. "Steer Clear" Law Enhances Roadside Safety

counter roadside activity, such as:

- accident scenes
- traffic stops
- work involving disabled vehicles
- highway maintenance and construction

drivers, passengers, and assistive personnelincluding law enforcement, tow-truck operators, road crews, and emergency responders-at-risk, emergency vehicle has its lights flashing and the law requires passing drivers to move over or where road crews or emergency personnel have slow down when they occur.

According to literature published by the Pa. warn motorists." Dept. of Transportation, "motorists are required to move at least one lane away," but in the event that time, the law allows road workers and emergency driving conditions do not allow this, "you must responders to report violations by motorists. Citareduce your speed."

CO

The law states that it is preferable to pass in a reports."

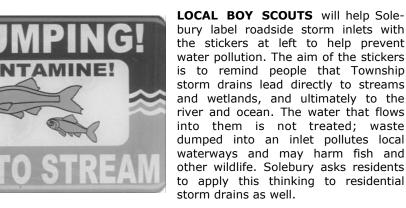
ennsylvania's "Steer Clear" law (Act 113, lane that is not adjacent to the incident, but when Section 3327, 2006) requires drivers to doing so is "impossible, illegal or unsafe," drivers take specific precautions when they en- may pass more closely "at a careful and prudent speed."

> The fine for failing to move over or slow down under these conditions may be up to \$250.

In addition, fines for other traffic violations committed in the area around such incidents may be dou-Because these activities place the safety of all bled, and a driver's license may be suspended for 90 days if a violation results in injury to workers.

> PennDot states: "The law applies any time an lighted flares, posted signs, or otherwise tried to

> And, "If law enforcement is not present at the tions can then be issued by police based on these





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Watch for Resident Survey

olebury has begun the process of updating one of the Township's most important guiding documents, the Comprehensive Plan.

The process will involve, among other things, a survey of Township residents on a number of topics. It will be included in an upcoming issue of the Solebury Messenger.

Please watch for it, take the time to complete it when you receive it, and return it to the Township in a timely manner (instructions will be included with the survey).

#### 2012 Presidential Election: Nov. 6 **POLLING PLACES**

Upper District: Carversville Christian Church Middle District: Solebury Twp. Municipal Building Lower 1 District: Solebury United Methodist Church Lower 2 District: Thompson Memorial Church

> Questions? Call the Board of Elections: 215-348-6154

#### **Budget Work Sessions**

The public is invited to attend the Board of Supervisors' budget work sessions. Each begins at 7 PM in Township Hall.

> Tuesday, Sept. 4 Tuesday, Oct. 2 Tuesday, Nov. 6 Tuesday, Dec. 4





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.



Linda, Bill, Kathy, Natalie and Janet



## 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.

#### September

- 9/3 HOLIDAY—TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED
- 9/4 Board of Supervisors—Budget Session,7 pm
- 9/6 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
- 9/10 Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 9/11 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- 9/18 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm
- 9/27 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm

#### October

- 10/1 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
- 10/2 Board of Supervisors—Budget Session,7 pm
- 10/8 Planning Commission, 7 pm
- 10/9 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
- 10/16 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm
- 10/25 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm
- 10/25 Land Preservation Committee, 7pm



Stay on top of meeting times with email alerts! Visit: soleburytwp.org Click "Solebury Email Alerts"



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**SOLEBURY BASEBALL** ended its regular season by crowning its Major League and Minor League champions at Laurel Park. The Township's recreation and suburban travel leagues, combined, supported more than 450 boys and girls on 46 baseball and softball teams. A record number of girls' softball teams—eight in five different divisions, ages 8 to 18—also competed.

**Major League** champs (*top*), the "Phillies," sponsored by New Hope American Legion Edgar H. Denson Post 79, include (*lying down*) Patrick Cooney, (*front, l. to r.*) Ryan Primavera, Tyler McCulla, Owen McKenna, James Scotto, (*middle, l. to r.*) Ryan Keating, Michael Duncan, Quinn Reinert, Jason Janora, Christian Scotto, Ben Dupont, (*back, l. to r.*) Asst. Coach Paul Keating, Head Coach Dan Dupont, and Asst. Coaches Scott Janora, Gary McCulla, and Brian Scotto.

**Minor League** champs (*bottom*), "Team Chuck Norris," sponsored by Professional Landscape Services, include (*front, l. to r.*) Mason Malerba, Kyle Stretch, Kel MacDowell, Jake Masino, (*back, l. to r.*) Head Coach Dave Cane, Asst. Coach Carole Borys, Jackson Cane, Bryan Houlton, Michael Borys, Parker Cane, Eric Locke, Chance Trammell, and Asst. Coach Chuck Lumio.

## Supervisors Urge Residents to Sign Up for Email Alerts

The Supervisors urge residents to sign up to receive Township emails about emergencies and other important information.

The email address you provide will not be used for any other purpose; the Township does not share email lists with other individuals and/or entities.

The alerts are created, first and foremost, to inform the community of impending natural disasters (such as hurricanes and floods), snow emergencies, road closures, and other warnings issued by the Police Department.

They also alert residents to important topics under consideration by the Township and to upcoming community events. Signing up for email alerts is easy:

- 1. Go to the Solebury website (www.soleburytwp.org).
- 2. Click on the "Email Alerts" box at the top of the home page.
- 3. Enter your email address in the form.
- 4. Click Submit.

That's all it takes to stay abreast of important information.



#### Planning an Addition or Renovation?

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#### Septic System 101: Extend the Life of Your Septic System and Protect Your Water Supply

of a septic system?

If so, you are not alone: Roughly 25 percent of American tems are functioning properly, households use on-lot septic sys- they can help replenish local tems.

septic system can extend its life, tion, particularly since many Solesave you money, and protect the bury residents rely on wells for Township's groundwater supply, water consumption. all at the same time.

When properly installed and maintained, septic Solebury Messenger provide insystems can be the most cost ef- formation that can help you better fective and efficient method of manage and extend the life of wastewater treatment a homeown- your on-lot septic system.

re you the proud owner er can choose; they can treat household wastewater for up to 20 years or more.

In addition, when septic sysgroundwater resources-a very Properly maintaining your important conservation considera-

The articles provided on the designed, center pages of this issue of the



Toxic gases produced by the natural septic treatment process, including methane and hydrogen sulfide, can kill in a matter of minutes. Take extreme care when inspecting your tank, even when just looking in. Never enter a septic tank or try to inspect the tank alone.

FREE Consultation When You Mention This Ad **PROBATE:** Let Me Help You Through the Process

Attorney Yvette E. Taylor-Hachoose is an experienced probate lawyer who can help you avoid problems that may arise after someone has died. She can also guide you through:

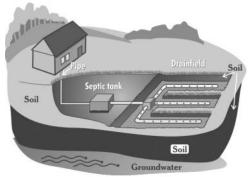
#### Wills & Living Wills Trusts **Estate Planning & Elder Law Business Succession Planning**

Law Offices of **Taylor-Hachoose** Washington Crossing, PA

> 215-321-4033 www.ythlaw.com

Yvette E. Taylor-Hachoose is the author of Stop! What Are You Waiting For? Your Step-by-Step Guide to Estate Planning. She is a graduate of Georgetown University Law Center. She has served as Vice President with Prudential Insurance Company and Assistant General Counsel with both CIGNA Corporation and Prudential.

### How Do On-Lot Septic Systems Work?



In a conventional septic system, treated wastewater flows by gravity from the house to the septic tank, and then to the drainfield (or to a distribution device that helps to distribute wastewater in the drainfield uniformly).

The drainfield, or soil absorption field, is a bed or series of trenches, lined with gravel or coarse sand, that is buried one to three feet below ground. Perforated pipes or drain tiles distribute wastewater through the drainfield.

The gravel and soil in the drainfield act as biological filters. Wastewater slowly trickles from the drainfield into the gravel and down through the soil.

This filtration process permits organisms in the soil to remove toxic substances, bacteria, viruses, and other pollutants from wastewater.

This process can effectively treat wastewater to an acceptable level, so it can enter the groundwater without contaminating it.

Soil particles, particularly clay, chemically attract and hold onto sewage nutrients, metals, and disease-carrying organisms.

The tank accumulates sludge and scum, both of which must be pumped out regularly.



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## Proper Use and Maintenance of On-Lot Septic Systems

ere are some tips on how to keep your septic system functioning properly and thereby help insure that clean and plentiful groundwater is available for future generations.

- 1. Maintain it: Know where your septic system is located and keep that area free of deep rooted plants and trees. Never allow heavy construction equipment to 3. be operated on the drainfield. Have the tank pumped by a professional every 2-3 years, regardless of whether the system has problems. Also have the tank inspected regularly, and keep records of all inspections, pumping, and other maintenance.
- 2. Don't use your toilet as a trash can: What goes into your toilet may eventu-



ally end up back in your drinking water. Never pour cooking oil, grease, or harsh chemicals (e.g., bleach, paint, paint thinner, drain cleaners, harsh toilet clean- 4. ers, pesticides, disinfect-

Want more information about on-lot septic systems? View the EPA publication, "A Homeowner's Guide to Septic Systems:" http://www.epa.gov/owm/septic/pubs/homeowner guide long.pdf

Visit the National Environmental Services Center to learn about the EPA-funded National Small Flows Clearinghouse, an objective source

of information about on-site wastewater collection and treatment systems:

http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/wastewater.cfm

ants, acids, medicines, gasoline, antifreeze) into your septic system. These things cannot be treated by the drainfield; consequently, they can contaminate the water supply. In addition, they can kill beneficial bacteria that treat and decompose raw sewage, and thus can disrupt treatment.

Flush fewer solids: Reduce sludge buildup and prevent clogs by keeping unnecessary solids out of your septic

> system (e.g., the contents of your garbage disposal, coffee grounds, dental floss, sanitary pads, diapers, kitty litter, cig- 5. arette butts, bandages,

paper towels, eggshells, bones, etc.). If you have a garbage disposal, severely restrict its use. If you have a dishwasher, make sure that the dishes are free of food particles before washing them.

Use less water: Less water causes less stress on the system and prevents overload. Purchase water-savers for your vour

showers and kitchen sink, place one or two bricks or plastic bottles in your toilet tank, fix leaky faucets/toilets



promptly, and load your washing machine completely before running it. Prevent run-off from downspouts, sump pumps, and paved surfaces from draining into the septic system. Whenever possible give your septic system a break-for example, spread laundry over a period of days instead of doing 5-6 loads in one day.

Use septic-friendly cleaning strategies: Don't use chemical or biological enzyme additives. As an alternative to caustic toilet bowl cleaners or bleach, try mild detergents, baking soda, or one



half cup of borax per gallon of water. The best laundry detergents to use are those that have low or no phosphates. 🍋

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No Job Too Small

## Police Offer Fall Safety Tips

olice Chief Dominick Bellizzie encourages parents to stress the back-to-school and Halloween safety issues below with their children. "Also, as drivers, we all need to pay attention to the activity of children at school bus stops, to the school buses on our roads, and to parents dropping children off at schools and bus stops," he said.

## Back-to-School Safety



- Team up with other parents to supervise children at the bus stop.
- Teach your children to:
  - Follow the same safe route to school or the bus stop each day and cross safely at corners.
  - Pay attention to traffic hazards and not to rush.
  - Stay out of the roadway when waiting for buses.
  - Wait for the red stop-arm to fall and the bus door to open, then look both ways, before boarding.
  - Sit quickly, talk quietly, and obey the bus driver.
  - Look both ways when exiting the school bus.
- If you drive your children to school:
  - Decrease traffic by carpooling.
  - Follow the school's posted traffic flow signs.
  - Observe the 15 mph limit in school zones.
- Adjust commuting times to allow for school traffic.
- Make sure there are no obstacles on your property, like overgrown landscaping, that may make it hard for drivers to see children waiting for the school bus.
- When school traffic causes delays, remember that the road is not the place to make up lost time.
- Always be alert for children darting between cars and crossing streets, especially on Halloween.





- Use only fire-retardant materials for costumes.
- Make costumes fit loosely, so kids can wear warm clothes underneath.
- Select costumes that do not cause tripping.
- Attach strips of reflective tape to costumes and treat bags so children are more visible.
- Choose nontoxic make-up over masks, so children can see and breathe better.
- Do not allow children to carry sharp objects.
- Supervise children under 12 while trick-or-treating.
- Direct older children to carry cell phones, travel in groups, and follow a preset route.
- Encourage children to walk, rather than run.
- Tell them not to enter homes without adult supervision.
- Be sure youngsters know to walk on sidewalks, not in the street or through dark yards.
- Insist that treats be brought home for inspection before they are eaten.
- Feed children before trick-or-treating so they are not tempted to snack.
- Wash and slice fruit into small pieces before eating.
- When in doubt, throw it out.



## Available Pre-Kindergarten Classes

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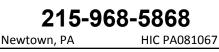
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## Township Directory



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.



215-340-6343

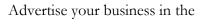
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Large (1/8 page)	(see examples on pp. 3-5, 6, 8)	\$150
X-Large (1/4 page)	(see examples on pp. 2, 4, 7)	\$300
Special Insert	(see example inside this issue)	\$650

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## Parks and Recreation Dept.

Upcoming Events



Attention Trick-or-Treaters! When: Wednesday, October 31, 6-8 PM Where: Corner of Norwalk Way & Kitchen's Lane, North Pointe

Solebury Parks and Recreation will be giving away all kinds of Halloween items from their post at the corner of Norwalk Way and Kitchen's Lane in North Pointe from 6-8 PM on Halloween night. It's all free! In the past, the handouts Parks and Recreation Director Dudley Rice has scouted out for local kids have included glow necklaces, beanie babies, fuzzy spiders, and more. All friendly ghosts and goblins are welcome to stop by.

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

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

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