Pa. Police Chiefs Accredit Solebury Force

The Solebury Police Department is now officially accredited by the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association, a distinction earned by only 102 of the state’s 1,117 law enforcement agencies to date.

Chief Dominick Bellizzie led the department through the rigorous, 18-month Law Enforcement Accreditation Program because he knew it would engage the force in examining professional standards that high-functioning police departments strive to meet, he said.

His officers already hold themselves to high standards, and he thought “it would be a feather in the Township’s cap” to be recognized for it. “Our residents deserve a police department that meets each standard,” he said.

The department had to adopt the association’s standards and related objectives as policy, self-evaluate the degree to which it met each one, make any needed changes to enhance that alignment, then compile evidence that it meets each standard.

As an example of how local law enforcement practices improved as a result, the chief pointed to evidence-room procedures. For this standard, the department reorganized how items are stored, further restricted key access, and instituted a more stringent process for signing in and out of the area. “Procedures like these are important,” he said.

In June, the association conducted a one-day mock-assessment of the department—an abbreviated dry run of the actual assessment—to help Solebury police achieve the most successful outcome possible.

For the formal evaluation in the fall, a team of police chiefs from outside Bucks and adjacent counties spent several days riding with officers, interviewing personnel, reviewing documents, inspecting the premises, and more.

The chief learned of the successful accreditation near the end of the year.

After three years, accredited departments must repeat the process to maintain their status.

The chief learned of the successful accreditation near the end of the year.

Celebrating Solebury’s Volunteers

by Supervisor Chair Helen Tai

One of the reasons Solebury is such a great place to live is because of our citizen volunteers. We are very fortunate to have more than 40 volunteers who serve the Township on five advisory boards as well as the Zoning Hearing Board.

Among other things, these volunteers generously give their valuable time and expertise to:

- Protect, conserve, manage, and promote our natural resources (Environmental Advisory Council).
- Foster the aesthetic values of the community and enhance the overall ambiance of the two historic districts (HARB).
- Promote land preservation (Land Preservation Committee).
- Plan, improve, and maintain Township parks (Parks & Recreation Board).
- Make recommendations on land development issues (Planning Commission).
- Render decisions on specific types of land use appeals and applications (Zoning Hearing Board).

Hundreds of others work in both official and unofficial capacities on the school board, ad hoc Township committees, watershed associations, historical societies, and to preserve and promote other valuable assets of Solebury.

Without exception, when I ask people why they give so much of their time to these efforts, they tell me that they want to serve the community. This level of civic engagement makes me proud to live in our community and gives me such hope for our future. When we work together, everyone benefits.

See page 6 to learn which of your neighbors are serving on this year’s advisory bodies.

What’s Inside?

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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 20-year anniversary with the publication of the Nov. 2015 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 Marie

Printed on recycled paper by Hermitage Press, Trenton, NJ © 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.

CREMATION SHOULD NOT BE OUTSOURCED

Most funeral homes use a third-party contract crematory. Varcoe-Thomas assures every step of care for your loved one is managed within our private facility. If you choose cremation, let our family care for your family.

Central Bucks Crematory, Inc.

Residents of Solebury, Caring for Families Since 1879
Large Off-Street Parking & Modern Facilities
Specializing in Church Visitations & Memorial Services
Affordable Cremation & Traditional Services
Licensed Funeral Director in PA, NJ & NY
Assisting Families When an Out-of-State Death Occurs
Savings for Veterans & Spouses

State of the Art Crematory
Now On Site
Jason “Oz” Oszczakiewicz
Owner/Supervisor
215-348-8930

344 North Main Street, Doylestown, PA 18901
www.varcoethomasfuneralhome.com

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.

March

3/1 Board of Supervisors, 7pm
3/7 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
3/8 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
3/14 Planning Commission, 7 pm
3/15 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm
3/17 Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm
3/24 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm
3/25 HOLIDAY—TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED

April

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

Stay on top of meeting times with email alerts!
Visit: SoleburyTwp.org
Click “Solebury Email Alerts” and enter your email address.

Solebury Roofing Contractors, Inc.

- Locally owned and operated
- All work installed by owner
- All work 100% guaranteed
- Fully insured and bonded
- Roofing professionally installed since 1970

215-534-0284
www.soleburyroofing.com

2302 Street Road Lahaska, PA
Office and Fax 215-794-7634
Planning a Winter Getaway?

While many of us see spring break as a chance for a winter getaway, criminals see lengthy vacations like these as opportunities for burglaries.

Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie urges residents to “make your home look lived-in when you go away.”

Before you leave:

- Let friends, neighbors, and police know when you will be away, but don’t discuss going away on social networking websites.
- Leave emergency contact numbers with police and a trusted neighbor.
- Put a hold on mail and newspaper deliveries, and have someone check your house periodically for packages and flyers left by the front door.
- If you are leaving a car at home, ask someone to move it each day.
- Lock all doors and windows, set any alarms, and be sure the alarm company knows how to reach you.
- Don’t leave trash or recycling cans at the roadside for pickup—ask a neighbor to move the cans for you at the appropriate times.
- Set timers to turn lights, radios, and TVs on and off intermittently. (Don’t leave the porch light—or other outside light—on all day and night.)
- If you use a service, continue to have your landscaping maintained while you are away.
- Don’t leave valuables in plain sight.

For help with any non-emergency home safety concerns, contact Township Police at 215-297-8201 during business hours.

Solebury Police present

National Prescription Drug Take-Back

Safely surrender expired, unwanted, or unused prescription medicines, including controlled substances and other drugs, for destruction by law enforcement.

For more information, visit: SoleburyTwp.org

Saturday, April date TBD
10 AM - 2 PM

Two locations:
1) Police Dept., Township Hall
2) Giant Food Store, Logan Square

Once determined, the date will be posted on:
- SoleburyTwp.org
- facebook.com/SoleburyPolice
- @soleburypolice

REVOLUTIONARY PUB CRAWL: Local reenacters entertained ticketholders with embellished tales of local history as they sampled Colonial-era fare at five popular pubs during this brand new Winter Festival 2016 event. After crawling to Inn of the Hawke, Mitchell’s Tavern, Lambertville Station, and Nektar, guests were treated to an after-party at Havana featuring music by Ten Foot Tall.

The next issue of the Solebury Messenger will mail on May 4.

Deadline for advertisers is April 15.

The next issue of the Solebury Messenger will mail on May 4. Deadline for advertisers is April 15.

Trinity Day School
215-297-5510
cbove@trinitysolebury.org
www.trinitysolebury.org/tds

JOIN US AT OUR OPEN HOUSE:
MARCH 17-18, 9-11AM
REGISTER NOW FOR FALL 2016!

Pre-K for 4’s and young 5’s
Pre-School Classes for 3’s
Toddler-Grow for 2½ year olds

- Dedicated to the social & emotional development of the young child
- Small class sizes & gentle atmosphere for learning
- Long-standing, experienced staff
- Faith-based principles support a home-like environment
- Extended full-day program available
Ensuring Good Well Water Quality
Part 2: Treating Your Well Water

If you followed the guidance provided in the January Solebury Messenger (see “Part 1: Testing Your Well Water”) and determined contaminants exist in your well water, the next step is to correct these problems.

However, treatment can be a complex challenge. For any given problem, a range of potential solutions may be available, and their desirability may vary based on cost or on unique aspects of your situation.

While this article provides some direction and options, it’s a good idea to consult a qualified water treatment specialist before you choose a treatment method.

Pathogens

Since pathogens can cause illness, even after ingesting small amounts (e.g., during showering and hose fights), you should disinfect all of your water when you find pathogens in your well.

Pitcher-type filters are not a viable solution to pathogen contamination. While waiting for the problem to be resolved, purchasing bottled water in large dispensers is a better option.

And while pouring bleach into the well may kill the germs for the moment, it rarely solves the problem. New pathogens will be pulled into the well from pumping.

Chlorination is the best disinfectant approach, but it requires frequent maintenance, and the treated water may not be desirable to drink or for showering.

An alternative is the use of ozone gas or a UV light.

Ideally, any system you choose should have an alarm that signals when it has stopped working. For instance, in the case of a UV light, a glowing bulb does not necessarily mean it is working properly.

You may be able to prevent further pathogen contamination by improving the integrity of the well cap and casing to prevent soil, animals, and surface water from entering. But if the well casing was poorly installed or has rusted through, you may have to drill a new well.

You may also need to move the well to avoid an ongoing pathogen source such as a stream channel or septic system.

Chemicals

Treatment for chemical contaminants can be tricky. For example, a chemical that is not of concern may prevent a treatment system from removing the target chemical.

In most situations, you will be able to choose whether to treat all of your water (whole-house treatment) or only your drinking water (point-of-use treatment).

Whole-house systems are usually more expensive than point-of-use options. Some can be installed and maintained by you, but you may want to get a professional involved to ensure your system provides safe water quality.

Whole-house filters typically involve a tank situated in a basement. The most common type is the water softener, which usually uses salt to remove calcium from water.

Water softeners and many other filter systems require “backwashing” to refresh them—a process that usually flushes extra water to the septic system. They may work on a timer that backwashes the system even when you are on vacation.

To minimize wasted well water, the overloading of your septic system, and the overuse of your filtration medium (e.g., salt), you may want to get a computerized flush system that backwashes as needed rather than on a schedule.

Pitcher-type filters are not a confident point-of-use method for treating drinking water contaminated with chemicals. The pitcher filter may not be suited to the chemical of concern, and it can be difficult to determine when filters expire.

However, small, combination reverse-osmosis/carbon systems can be readily installed in your plumbing. Reverse-osmosis systems remove most inorganic contaminants and wash the waste materials to the sewer; there is no filter to clean. Carbon-filter systems remove most organic pollutants and...
often snap out for relatively easy replacement. This type of system is often dispensed by way of a small tap on the side of the kitchen sink.

**Other Considerations**

If your house came with a treatment system already installed, don’t presume it was properly designed or even needed. Many companies try to sell uneducated homeowners unnecessary or incorrect treatment systems.

Water treatment is a serious investment. It’s wise to contact reputable water treatment specialists and get a variety of opinions before choosing an approach. Generally, higher quality equipment may last longer, provide better warning devices, and save money in the long run. Since the bottom-line consideration is the health of the people in your household, ensure the availability of quality water and protect your peace of mind by regularly monitoring your well water quality.

The Township would like to thank resident and environmental hydrogeologist Philip Getty for sharing his expertise with Solebury residents by way of this two-part series.

Download informative pamphlets on water quality—such as *A Guide to Private Water Systems in Pennsylvania, A Quick Guide to Groundwater in Pennsylvania*, and many more—from the Penn State Extension website:

http://extension.psu.edu/natural-resources/water/publications

**We Need Your Input to Improve Our Permitting Process**

Solebury Township would like to improve its permitting process, and we need your help! Your feedback, both positive and negative, will help us learn what we are doing well and what we could do better.

If you have applied for a permit or had interaction with the Solebury Township zoning or permitting officials in the last two years, please contact Helen Tai at htai888@gmail.com or 215-262-3371 to provide your confidential feedback.

**Volunteers Needed for Solebury Day Subcommittee**

Solebury Parks and Recreation is looking for community volunteers to serve on the Solebury Day 2016 subcommittee. If you are interested, please contact: soleburyparks@soleburytwp.org

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**It’s Tax Season**

*EIT/LST Filing Reminder*

Solebury residents file and pay the 1% Earned Income Tax (EIT) and the $52 Local Services Tax (LST) through the Bucks County-wide tax collection firm, Keystone Collections Group.

The 1% EIT is assessed by Solebury Township (0.5%) and the New Hope-Solebury School District (0.5%) on the earned income of Solebury residents, as well as on that of individuals who live outside the Township but work in Solebury.

Earned income and net profits from all sources for a specific calendar year that total less than $5,000 are exempt from the EIT. E-filing of both taxes is available on the Keystone website.

For more information on all matters related to the EIT or LST, contact Keystone:

www.keystonecollects.com
724-978-0300

**2010 Taxes and Earlier**

Any returns that remain to be filed or paid for 2010 and earlier are to be submitted to former Township EIT collector H.A. Berkheimer:

www.hab-inc.com

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With the recent change in district boundaries, the 178th Legislative District now spans a broader area that includes Solebury, Upper Makefield, and Wrightstown Townships, as well Northampton and New Hope Boroughs.

Rep. Scott Petrie has opened a satellite office in at 123 W. Bridge Street in New Hope to better assist local constituents with state-related matters.

Various state forms and applications are available at the office, which is open Tuesday through Friday, 10 AM to 3:00 PM.

Phone: 215-862-1940
Fax: 215-862-1943

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Supervisors Appreciate Volunteers

The 2016 Board of Supervisors is pleased to present the Solebury residents who have volunteered to staff the Township’s advisory boards and committees this year.

“Without exception, when I ask people why they give so much of their time to these efforts, they tell me that they want to serve the community,” said Supervisor Chair Helen Tai. “This level of civic engagement makes me proud to live in our community and gives me such hope for our future. When we work together, everyone benefits.”

Please join the supervisors in thanking your neighbors for volunteering.

2016 Advisory Boards and Committees

For changes in meeting dates & times, visit soleburytwp.org or sign up for email alerts (see page 2).

Environmental Advisory Committee
Supervisor Liaison: Helen Tai
Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 7 PM
Deirdre Alderfer
Eric Allen
David Benner
Hope Blaythorne
Barry Fetterolf
John Francis
Ron Moule

Parks & Recreation Board
Supervisor Liaison: Kevin Morrissey
Meetings: 4th Thursday, 7 PM
Pattie Beans-Clark
Kevin Campbell
Greg Cuthcart
Dan DuPont
Lori High
Andy Kelly
James Trammell
Jane Wilson
Kim Wilson

Historical Architectural Review Board
Supervisor Liaison: Noel Barrett
Meetings: 1st Monday, 7 PM
Mark Baumbaiker
Scott Minnuci
Margaret Newman
Patrick Pastella
Laurence Peseski
Nancy Ruddle

Planning Commission
Supervisor Liaison: Paul Cosdon
Meetings: 2nd Monday, 7 PM
Peter Brussock
Christopher Caputo
Keith Deussing
Jack Durkin
Dan Fest
Laura Sachs
Diane Sarti

Land Preservation Committee
Supervisor Liaison: James Searing
Meetings: 3rd Thursday, 7 PM
James Coan
Malcolm Crooks
Christine Hafner
Phil Johnson
Stanley A. Marcus
Ralph O'Banion
Karl Pettit
Charlotte Zanidakis

Zoning Hearing Board
Meetings: When needed
Lisa Lori
Daniel E. Moser
Joseph Pignitor
Arthur Rosenberg
Ed Benson, Alternate
John Fuhrmeister, Alternate
Michael Warden, Alternate

To learn more about Township advisory bodies, visit: SoleburyTwp.org

Solebury needs landowners who are willing to allow safe, legal hunting on their land as part of the Deer Management Program. Contact Jean Weiss to learn more: 215-297-5656

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.

STAND UP AND BE NOTICED
with a full-page insert in the Solebury Messenger
609-397-8483
ads.schoolwindow@gmail.com
facebook.com/schoolwindowpublications
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

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

Asst. Township Manager/Secretary/Treasurer/Asst. Z.O.
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

Zoning Officer/Building Code Official
Matthew Wojaczyk: mwojacyzk@soleburytwp.org

Unsure where to direct your question?
Email: soleburytownship@soleburytwp.org
The appropriate individual will respond.

Advertise your business in the
Solebury Messenger

Your ad will reach 5,500 Solebury Township households and businesses by direct mail.

Small (1½”-by-2½”)
(see examples on p. 8) $115*

Medium (2½”-by-2½”)
(see examples on pp. 3-6, 8) $140*

Large (1/8 page)
(see examples on p. 2) $165*

X-Large (1/4 page)
(see examples on pp. 3-6, 8) $325*

Special Insert
$675

*Call to learn what discounts are available with a one-year contract and/or simultaneous insertion.

Special Offer for New Advertisers: Advertise with us for the first time, and get our CONTRACT RATE with NO CONTRACT!

609-397-8483
ads.schoolwindow@gmail.com
facebook.com/schoolwindowpublications

Parks and Recreation Dept.
Upcoming Events

Annual Easter Egg Hunt
March 26, 10 AM, rain or shine, Pat Livezey Park
Children 8 and under. Arrive early to make sure your children do not miss the start of the hunt.
Parking is available at the upper entrance of the park at the corner of Hagan and Parkside Drives. In the event of rain, prizes will be distributed at the snack stand until supplies are exhausted.

Summer Adventure Camp 2016
July 5 - Aug. 12, NH-S Upper Elementary School,
180 West Bridge St., New Hope
For more information and registration form, visit:
http://www.soleburytwp.org (Parks & Recreation tab)

To keep abreast of local sports news, visit these websites:
soleburytwp.org (Parks & Recreation tab)
www.soleburybaseball.org (baseball)
www.soleburybasketball.org (basketball)
www.nhsfcc.com (football)
www.soleburylacrosse.com (lacrosse)
www.soleburysoccer.com (soccer)
www.soleburywrestling.com (wrestling)
Solebury Township Parks and Recreation presents

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 26, 10 am • Rain or shine • Pat Livezey Park
(see p. 7 for details)

Mt. Airy Happy Time School
Jennifer Ruehle, Director
Daycare • Pre-School • Summer Camp
7:30am-6:00pm, Monday-Friday
Register now for
SUMMER CAMP 2016!
Mt. Airy Happy Time School
1293 Route 179
Lambertville, NJ 08530
www.happytimeschool.com happytimeschool@gmail.com

Nature Summer Camps
at Bowman’s Hill
WILDFLOWER PRESERVE

REGISTER NOW!
Nature Rangers, Insectmania, and Magical Fairy Gardens
Full-day and part-day options for ages 6-12
1635 River Rd., (Rt. 32) New Hope, PA
bhwp.org (215) 862-2924

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