A
fter a long and difficult winter season that pushed Township road crews and equipment to the limit, the Board of Supervisors decided in May to move forward with upgrading Solebury’s Public Works facilities and hired an architect to draw up possible plans.

The expansion and relocation of the Public Works building has been a topic of discussion at Board of Supervisors meetings with public input for over a decade.

While there was strong agreement that 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 snow removal equipment are currently housed in a roughly 50-year-old garage located 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—especially in the middle of a snow or ice storm when our equipment is needed most.”

Water runoff is another issue with the existing facility. Whether the water is the result of rainstorms, hosing-down a salt truck in winter, or changing the oil on a tractor-mower in the summer, Dennis said the 1970s-era garage just wasn’t designed with the management of runoff in mind.

Any new facility will have built-in stormwater management systems, he said, as these are in keeping with Solebury’s longstanding efforts to protect the Township’s water resources.

The Bedminster-based firm Phillip & Donovan Architects will develop plans for a new, one-story, 16,000-square-foot facility on unused, Township-owned land next to Township Hall.

The new facility will be designed to fit in with the surrounding buildings, Dennis noted. The firm will also look at ways to re-use a portion of the existing garage for Police Department facilities.

The budget for designs, oversight, and pre-bid materials for construction is $118,000.

“A new facility that allows us to improve maintenance, increase efficiency, and add more years of service to our equipment—built to the latest environmental standards on land already designated for Township facilities—will be a good investment that pays well into the future,” Jim projected.

Hurricane Season Arrives

Sign Up for Emergency Notifications Now

The Atlantic hurricane season officially runs from June 1 to November 30, but peaks sharply from late August through September, which is usually when we in the North Atlantic region feel the brunt of storms that travel this far.

Make sure you’re signed up for the emergency notifications you need before a hurricane-related problem strikes.

You can sign up for as few or many of the options below as you prefer.

ReadyNotifyPA.org

Use this website to ensure you receive Weather Warnings issued by the Township; the warnings are issued only for true emergencies.

If you wish, you can choose additional notification options. And you can specify exactly how you want to be notified.

Solebury Email Alerts

Township email alerts announce road closings, Police Dept. warnings, changes in meeting times and locations, articles posted on the Township website, and more.

To sign up, visit SoleburyTwp.org, click the News tab, then click the words “Email Alerts.”

Enter your email address to subscribe. You can unsubscribe at any time.

Follow Police on Social Media

Facebook: facebook.com/SoleburyPolice

Twitter: @soleburypolice

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There is still room!

SUMMER ADVENTURE
CAMP 2014

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

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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In a friendly and supportive environment, our goal is to treat your problem, relieve your pain and restore your ability to function. We get you back to work, sports, and a better life.

Linda, Bill, Kathy, Natalie, Janet

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Suite #1, Logan Square Center • 215-862-4195

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
7/4 HOLIDAY—TOWNSHIP OFFICES CLOSED
7/7 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
7/8 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
7/14 Planning 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
8/4 Historical Architectural Review Board, 7 pm
8/11 Planning Commission, 7 pm
8/12 Environmental Advisory Council, 7 pm
8/19 Board of Supervisors, 7 pm
8/21 Land Preservation Committee, 7 pm
8/28 Parks & Recreation Board, 7 pm

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Click “Solebury Email Alerts” and enter your email address.

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2302 Street Road Lahaska, PA
Office and Fax 215-794-7634
On-Site Drug Collection in Police Dept. Lobby a Success

Police Chief Dominick Bellizzie reports that residents have begun using the on-site drug collection box the department installed in its lobby at the end of March to safely dispose of their expired, unwanted, or unused over-the-counter and prescription medicines, including controlled substances.

After collecting them, police channel the drugs for environmentally friendly disposal.

Even with the permanent box in place, the department plans to continue holding one-day collection drives each spring and fall, as it has since the federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) spearheaded the national prescription-drug take-back campaign four years ago.

“The one-day events are convenient for our residents,” Chief Bellizzie said. “They give us a chance to remind the public that these substances should not be discarded other ways and pose a risk if left in medicine chests.”

According to the DEA website, “Medicines in the home are a leading cause of accidental poisoning, and flushed or trashed medicines can end up polluting our waters.”

Collection and disposal by law enforcement prevents environmental contamination, the dangerous consequences of accidental ingestion by children and pets, and the potential abuse that can occur when drugs are left lying around homes.

NHS Cares Project Director Barbara Gross raised matching funds for the roughly $700 collection unit from the Bucks County District Attorney’s office and arranged the purchase of the box for police.

Solebury’s MedReturn box (shown below) is accessible Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in the Police Department lobby at Township Hall.

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.
Solebury is about to embark on a major milestone in the history of Ingham Spring Park: The breaching of the earthen dam that was built on the eastern end of the 48-acre site in 1870 to create a 15-acre 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 years to achieve, but Solebury proudly acquired the title to the property in 2009.

The question 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 approximately six feet of the outlet structure. This took pressure off the aging barrier, but also lowered the level of the lake, adding about 80 feet of wetlands to the western shoreline.

The Township’s goal has always been to preserve this critical natural resource. A sacred site for the Lenni Lenapes since the early 1600s, the coldwater limestone spring is the largest of its kind in the five-county region surrounding Philadelphia and one of the largest in the state. It flows at a rate of about 2,000 gallons per minute and forms the headwaters of Aquetong Creek.

**The Plan**

Since becoming stewards of the property, 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 Township to Breach Ingham Spring Dam Aquetong Creek Expected to Revert to Earlier State

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**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 Aquetong 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.

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**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.

**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.
The Bedminster Regional Land Conservancy is a grassroots, mostly volunteer, nonprofit organization established for the purpose of protecting and preserving the agricultural heritage and rural 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 education and outreach efforts, she said. In addition, the conservancy must attract more volunteers to support its growth.

Volunteers play key roles in the nonprofit by serving on boards and committees and working 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.

Trinity Day School

215-297-5510

www.trinitysolebury.org/tds

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Ingham Spring Dam

(work 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.

(continued on page 6)
Police Urge Caution Around Motorcycles

The 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous Waste Only</td>
<td>July 19</td>
<td>Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Rd., Warrington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Waste Only</td>
<td>July 26</td>
<td>Central Bucks South High School 1100 Folly Rd., Warrington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous &amp; Electronic Waste</td>
<td>August 16</td>
<td>Quakertown Community High School 600 Park Ave. (Rear Lot), Quakertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous &amp; Electronic Waste</td>
<td>August 23</td>
<td>Bucks County Technical High School 610 Wistar Rd., Bristol</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 potentially a pond or pool finally establish themselves.

“We really want to embrace the water taking its own course,” he stated. “No matter how much 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.”

Draining the 14-acre lake could add up to 13 acres of new parkland to the site, which is slated for passive recreation as well as historical and environmental education.

“We want to make this someplace you can 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 provide interest, thanks to planned signage that will describe the lake that once was.
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
(Check the Parks & Recreation tab,
then 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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**Parks and Recreation Dept.**

**Upcoming Events**

**There is still room!**

**SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP 2014**

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180 West Bridge St., New Hope

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www.soleburybaseball.org (baseball)
www.soleburybasketball.org (basketball)
www.tcteams.com/nhspopwarner (football)
www.tcteams.com/solebury (soccer)
www.soleburywrestling.com (wrestling)
There is still room!

SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP 2014
June 30 to August 8 • NH-S Upper Elementary School
Registration forms are available at Township Hall and on the Township website.
(See page 7 for details.)

SUMMER CAMP

Crews Surveying, LLC
Adam D. Crews, PLS
1806 Deep Run Road
Suite B
Pipersville, PA 18947
Ph: 215-766-2477
Fx: 215-766-2399
A.Crews@CrewsSurveying.com

Solebury Chiropractic
DR. MICHAEL J. REDIGER
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7 Days, 10AM to 6PM