



DON'T MISS.....

Fall/Winter 2010

- Longswamp Township Community Days Celebration 2011
- Newly Founded Historical Society
- Don't forget to check out the Township's website www.longswamp.us for great up-to-date information

~ a municipal community newsletter for the enjoyment of residents and businesses of Longswamp Township ~

Longswamp Ledger



NEW LED SIGN AT THE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP wishes to thank and recognize the following major contributors for their generosity toward the purchase of the newly installed LED Sign at the Township Municipal Building.

The generous contributions received from the following groups are greatly appreciated... **Brandywine Girls Softball League**, **Brandywine Youth Baseball Association**, & **Longswamp Lions Club**



COMMUNITY DAYS CELEBRATION 2011
SPONSORED BY THE
NEWLY FOUNDED LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP will be celebrating its **250th Anniversary** on July 2, 2011 (raindate July 3, 2011).

The Longswamp Township Historical Society is planning day-long events prior to the Township's annual fireworks celebration sponsored by the Longswamp Township Park and Recreation Commission to be held later that evening.

As part of the event, the Society is considering having a fashion show or display of early costume or vintage clothing from the 1700's to the present. If you know of anyone that has access to, or a private collection of such clothing and would loan it for that day, please contact Maryann Lantz at 610/682-7388 ext. 25.

The Historical Society is also looking for people interested in volunteering their time for one or two hours for this fun-filled event. Help is needed in all forms ~ whether it will be planning, setting-up, decorating, cleaning-up, communications, and networking... we need your help! If you're interested in volunteering for the 250th Anniversary Celebration, or for further information about the Historical Society, please contact Supervisor Maryann Lantz.

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP SEWAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
~ Reminder to Pump On-Lot Septic Systems for Residents in Cycle 2 ~

Residents who have an individual sewage disposal system are required to have the system tank cleaned out by a registered pumper/hauler at least once every three years.

CYCLE 2: July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011
 (North side of State St., West of Topton Borough & South side of State St., West of Centennial Rd. & Woodside Ave.)

CYCLE 3: July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012
 (South side of State St. & Mountain Rd., East of Centennial Rd. and Woodside Ave.)

CYCLE 1: July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013
 (North side of State St. & Mountain Rd., East of Topton Borough)

Repeat Cycles 1 ~ 2 ~3

~ LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP PARK ~

~ Discount Winter Ski Tickets ~



Big Boulder*/Jack Frost

Adult Mid-Week	\$36	(save \$8)
Adult Week-End	\$42	(save \$8)
Youth (age 7-18) Mid-Week	\$32	(save \$1)
Youth (age 7-18) Week-End	\$34	(save \$6)
Nite Mid-Week (3 p.m. to close)*	\$26	(save \$2-\$6)

Blue Mountain

Week-Day	\$38	(save \$17)
Week-End/Holiday	\$47	(save \$16)
Nites	\$29	(save \$8)
Week-End Tubing	\$24	(save \$5)

Sno Mountain

Mid-Week	\$36	(save \$8)
Week-End	\$45	(save \$8)
Youth Mid-Week	\$26	(save \$8)
Youth Week-End	\$32	(save \$10)

Camelback

Mid-Week	\$41	(save \$7)
Week-End/Holiday	\$51	(save \$7)

Bear Creek Ski Lodge

Week-End/Holiday	\$61	(same price at resort)
Week-Day (mid-week)	\$35	(save \$11)
Evening (4 p.m. to 10 p.m.)	\$25	(save \$9)

Tickets are available from mid-December, 2010 thru March 31, 2011 and can be purchased at the Longswamp Township Office during normal office hours Monday thru Fri 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
*** PAYMENT METHOD VIA CASH OR CHECK * *PRICES SUBJECT TO CHANGE ***
 Other Ski Resorts May Be Added... Please contact the Township Office for updates.



Please note that any flyers or solicitations of any sort that you wish to hang on Township property at the park or kiosk need to be submitted to the Township Staff during normal business hours for approval based on the content of information.

~ CALENDAR OF EVENTS ~

The Annual Open House & Tree Lighting Event with Santa will be held on Friday, December 3rd at the Township Building starting at 7:00 p.m.

Also look out for times to be announced for the following events coming up in early 2011...
JANUARY 21, 2011... Puzzle Tournament
FEBRUARY 18, 2011... Puzzle Tournament
MARCH 18, 2011... Puzzle Tournament
APRIL 8, 2011... Easter Egg Hunt
(raindate April 15, 2011)

JUST A REMINDER... Pavilion Rentals at the Township Park will be accepted at the Township Office beginning **February 1, 2011.**

WE ARE IN NEED OF GOOD VOLUNTEERS LIKE YOU!

We are very fortunate to have several dedicated volunteers that help us through-out the year with the many various functions sponsored by the Longswamp Township Park & Recreation Commission, but even with the excellent work of our current volunteer committee, we can always use more help in order to make each event even more successful than the last. No one likes to hear it, but it's always floating around wherever you go, someone is bound to say it and we'd like to say it to you... become one of those within the community who do it ~ BECOME A VOLUNTEER!!! Just like Missy Simon, Nelia Maroulis, Michelle Herman, Don and Jayne Siegfried, David Moore and Judy Sechler... these are just a few of the wonderful folks you'll get to meet just by volunteering some of your time by doing something for your community and while having fun at the same time. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact MaryBeth Hendley, Park & Recreation Director at 610/682-7388 ext. 29 for further information in what you can do. We'd like to thank all of our volunteers who have assisted through-out the years and look forward to meeting some new faces!

Dear Township Resident:

The Park & Recreation Commission is conducting a survey to determine if we are meeting the needs of the community and also to attract more volunteers to our programs. We invite you to participate by completing the survey below and return it to: Longswamp Township Park & Recreation Director, MaryBeth Hendley, 1112 State Street, Mertztown, PA 19539. Thank You!!

What is your favorite park event?

- PUZZLE TOURNAMENT
- COMMUNITY YARD SALES
- EASTER EGG HUNT
- FIREWORKS
- CONCERTS (READING PHILHARM.)
- HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK
- CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING & OPEN HOUSE
- SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

Would you like to see more events at the park? YES NO

What other events would you like to attend at the park? _____

Would you consider volunteering for any event? YES NO

If you answered "yes", which events interest you? _____

If you answered "no", might we ask "why not?" _____

Would you like to see anything added to the park? (i.e., fountains, adult fitness equipment, gazebo with butterfly garden) YES NO If you answered "yes", please specify _____

Thank you for taking the time to offer your feedback! We invite you to come to a Park & Recreation Meeting which is held the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Meeting Room.

Future Tid-Bits for Thought...

We are still looking for someone to teach Tennis. Please contact the Township Office if you are interested and willing to teach this fun activity.

The American Red Cross is considering offering Dog and Cat First Aid Classes as well as a Babysitting Course at the Township Municipal Building (*with a small pre-paid fee*). If we can get enough interested residents, we'll contact the American Red Cross to schedule classes sometime in 2011.

We are also still interested in hosting a bus trip to Longwood Gardens. If we can get enough interested residents, we'll contact Bieber Bus to host a trip either in the Spring or Winter of 2011. Please contact the Township Office to be first on the list. Once we have a full bus... we'll book the trip!

Please contact MaryBeth Hendley, Park and Recreation Director at 610/682-7388 ext. 29 if you are interested in any of the above activities.

Zoning & Codes Enforcement Farewell

As many of you may already know, Township Zoning & Codes Enforcement Officer, Ed Bender is retiring from his position with Longswamp Township.

A personal note from the desk of Ed Bender...

I'd like to express a fond farewell to all the residents of Longswamp Township as I depart to start my retirement. I will never forget all of the wonderful people who have come through my office door over the past five years of serving as the Zoning and Codes Enforcement Officer of Longswamp Township. It was my honor to serve you.



IMPORTANT REMINDER from the ZONING OFFICE...

Most Longswampians have a full year in which to pump their septic system. Experience has shown us that those who wait until the end of that year to pump, often run into unexpected difficulties.

As a result, they end up violating the cycle's deadline. We encourage residents not to wait until the end of your cycle year to pump in order to avoid any unforeseen problems. ***PLEASE NOTE CYCLE 2 FOR PUMPING ON-LOT SEPTIC IS NOW IN EFFECT FROM JULY 1, 2010 UNTIL JUNE 30, 2011.***

The Pennsylvania Attorney General's Office has warned about scam artists who prey upon unsuspecting consumers. These scams often take the form of lottery and sweepstake scams, fictitious government grants or loans, and various other "easy money" offers. One thing they usually have in common is that the consumer is given a bogus check, which may look very authentic, and then asked to forward some of his/her own money to someone else. The checks usually turn out to be a fraud, but by then, the criminal has already taken the consumer's money and moved on.

Legitimate lotteries withhold all taxes and fees up-front before they distribute any prize winnings, so there is never a need for consumers to send money to contest operators. Additionally, it is extremely unlikely that anyone will win a lottery or sweepstakes that they haven't physically entered, and federal law prohibits U.S. citizens from participating in foreign lotteries.

The Pennsylvania State Police has also warned about crimes frequently perpetrated by transient criminals against the public, in many cases the crimes are directed at older Pennsylvania residents.

A Few Prevention Tips to Keep Your Home Safe:

- Always lock your front and back doors when doing outside work, going to your mailbox, or any other errands that keep you away from your home.
- Don't let anyone you don't know into your home. Don't allow any strangers into your home, even if they appear to be in distress or with a young child.
- Check with your utility company by telephone if a person claiming to be an employee wants to enter your home or wants you to come outside with them. If you don't see any identification - ask for it, but keep in mind that criminals have become adept at making their own identification cards, therefore it should be verified with the respective company.
- Write down the license plate number of any vehicles being operated by individuals acting suspiciously and get a good physical description of any suspicious individuals who come to your door.
- When in doubt, ***CALL THE POLICE IMMEDIATELY*** to report your concerns. Don't be too embarrassed to report that you may have been victimized or swindled.

DID YOU KNOW?

The highest point in Longswamp Township is near Tower Road on Tower Mountain near the big communications tower.

The lowest point in Longswamp Township is the wetlands across Valley Road from the Atlas Plant.

The difference in elevation is approximately 800 feet.

Township Roads

Please be aware that the Township Roadcrew will be trimming trees through-out the Township as weather permits. Please observe direction offered by the Roadcrew if you encounter them at a job site, as they always have your safety in mind first and foremost while conducting this necessary part of road maintenance within the Township.



Please note that Longswamp Township will not accept any responsibility for damage to any objects/items (mailboxes, planters, fences, plants or shrubs, etc.) placed within the legally defined right-of-way of its roads. Persons placing such objects within the right-of-way, do so at their own risk, and must accept responsibility. The Township is obligated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to maintain it's roads and byways entrusted to it, which is our primary responsibility. We will try our best to avoid your mailbox, fence, and shrubbery. Please do not hesitate to contact the Township Office if you feel there is a continuing problem and we'll try to work out a solution acceptable to all parties concerned.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Residents who have an illness or handicap affecting their mobility, as well as any individuals involved in the medical profession or any other type of emergency services, are asked to contact the Township Roadmaster, Scott Miller, in writing about your specific needs.

If you have an emergency and are in need of immediate attention during a snowstorm, please do not hesitate to call the Township Maintenance Building at 610/682-2317 and the Roadcrew will do their best at assisting you.

Township Emergency Snow Removal Ordinance No. 2010-263

The Township Emergency Snow Removal Ordinance provides procedures for declaring snow emergencies and regulates the removal of snow from sidewalks to ensure access by emergency responders after snow events. This Ordinance also prohibits residents and property owners from pushing snow onto Township Roadways and covering fire hydrants with snow. Snow Emergencies can be declared between 6:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. by a radio or television announcement that covers the Township broadcast area, not less than an hour prior to becoming effective.

SNOW EMERGENCY ROUTES

If a State of Emergency is declared, it is EXTREMELY IMPORTANT that vehicles are removed from Snow Emergency Routes. Anyone found in violation of the Snow Emergency declaration may be subject to fines as well as risk their vehicle being towed. Snow Emergencies will be announced via the local news media. Snow information is typically announced on the WFMZ Channel 69 News.

ATTENTION RESIDENTS OF LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP... We want to keep you, your friends and family and neighbors safe, informed and connected to our community 24/7. When we find it necessary to inform residents in a timely manner of important information such as a public safety emergency alert message, traffic information, a road closure or detour advisory, or something of immediate concern that impacts the area near you, we'd like to reach you with up-to-date information through a new system provided by Nixle's Community Information Service. NIXLE is used as a communication platform by over 4,300 agencies in all 50 states and will help enable us to stay instantly connected to you and the community. This effective method of technology will help keep you well informed of issues that may directly affect you, the township's services, as well as special community events and updates. By choosing to use this optional free service, we will be able to better provide you with an opportunity to receive information via text messages sent directly to your cell phone or e-mail address. Please visit nixle.com for further information and to register to start receiving this type of information immediately.

Longswamp Township
1112 State Street
Mertztown, PA 19539



Phone: 610/682-7388
Fax: 610/682-9067
Email: longtwp@ptd.net
www.longswamptwp.us

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LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP REFERENCE LOG

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Steven C. Wyka, Chairman
Maryann Lantz, Vice Chairman
Michael A. Sacks, Supervisor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Richard N. Meier, Chairman
Donald C. Siegfried, Vice Chairman
Cathi Kratzer, Secretary
Bruce Godfriaux
Stanley Bauman
David Q. River
Frank Karoly

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING DAYS

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING DAYS

1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Preston Boyer, Chairman
Karl L. Fenstermacher
Steven Parks
Peter Silbermann (Alternate)

ENGINEER

Hanover Engineering Associates
252 Brodhead Road, Suite 100
Bethlehem, PA 18017-8944
610/691-5644

SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT

Hanover Engineering Associates
252 Brodhead Road, Suite 100
Bethlehem, PA 18017-8944
610/691-5644

TAX COLLECTOR

Lorraine A. Meck
9540 Longswamp Road
Mertztown, PA 19539
610/641-9119

BUILDING INSPECTOR

Lehigh Valley Inspection Service, Inc.
P.O. Box 423
Orefield, PA 18069
610/395-3827

ZONING OFFICER

CODE ENFORCEMENT
ASST. SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT
Edmund W. Bender
610/682-7388 ext. 35

LONGSWAMP TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL BUILDING **1112 STATE STREET, MERTZTOWN, PA 19539-9101**

Jennifer A. Wassell-Bonser, Secretary/Administrator
Joni McPike, Treasurer/Financial Manager
Gena Strzelecki, Administrative Assistant/Open Records Officer
Mary Beth Hendley, Assistant Administrator/Director - Parks & Recreation
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