



DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP

BERKS COUNTY

SPRING 2011 NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Issue 1

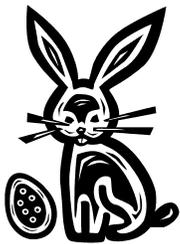
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

2nd Annual Douglass Township Community Day

Saturday October 1, 2011

Some of the activities will include: 5K race, 2 mile walk, moon bounce, community yard sale, food, games, local businesses and churches. We are in need of volunteers to help with the event.

If you are interested, please call or email the Township Office.



Douglass Township Park & Recreation
Committee Annual

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 16th at 10am

Held at the Douglass Township Municipal Park
(please check in beginning at 9:45 pm in the Municipal Building)

- Children must be preregistered by Friday April 8th
- Open to Douglass Township residents and their families
- For infants, preschoolers & kindergarten to 6th grade students

In case of inclement weather:

Call Township office at 610-367-8500 to hear an up-to-date announcement, or check the Township Web site,

www.berks.pa.us/douglass

Rain date: Sunday April 17th at 1:00 pm

Registration forms are available at the Township Office, on our web site and through Pine Forge Elementary School if your child is a student there.

2010 Road Report

Road projects completed in 2010:

Winding Road - milled and overlaid from Colebrookdale Road to Locust Road

Douglass Drive – miscellaneous patching was completed

The Township has a long term plan for road maintenance that includes maintenance and repairs to 32.5 miles of Township owned roads.

The State owns and maintains 14.9 miles of roads in the Township which include: Colebrookdale Road, West Pine Forge Road, Township Line Road, Greshville Road, Farmington Avenue, Pine Forge Road, Manatawny Road, Ben Franklin Highway, Reading Avenue and the Route 422 bypass.

With the exception of Reading Avenue, Ben Franklin Highway and the 422 bypass, the Township is paid by the State to plow and salt all other State owned roads, but not to perform any maintenance.

Are you ready for Spring? The road crew is, they salted and/or plowed the roads 34 times this winter!

COMMUNITY NEWS

EMS HAPPENINGS

By Dave Babb, EMT-B, CAC Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service; Operations Coordinator

My intention for this column is to keep the community updated on the latest happenings in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in general and here at the Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service, in particular.

By way of introduction to those who may not know, Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service covers the northern part of Douglass (Berks) Township (Colebrookdale Road to Manatawny Road and Douglass Drive to Pine Forge Road). Goodwill of Pottstown covers the southern end of the township.

The Boyertown Ambulance has been in service since 1942 when a group of members from the Boyertown Lions Club decided to start an ambulance service. We were a volunteer service until a small stipend was paid in approximately 1995. Then, in 2005, we began Advanced Life Support (ALS) and began to pay our staff. Today, we are proud to say the Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service has 20 EMTs, 14 Paramedics, 3 Emergency Responders, and 2 RNs on staff. All are certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to practice pre-hospital emergency medicine.

We have three ambulances outfitted with state of the art equipment to treat the sick and injured. We employ equipment such as heart monitors / defibrillators. With this technology, if we encounter a patient with a suspected heart attack we can perform a 12 lead EKG (just like they perform in the hospital) and then, using wireless technology, transmit it to the receiving hospital where a Cardiologist reviews it. The hospital can then determine if the patient is a candidate for cardiac catheterization. We have had cases where we proceeded directly to the catheterization lab and the patient received the proper intervention in less than 40 minutes! During a heart attack, an artery that supplies blood to the heart muscle becomes clogged, robbing the heart muscle of oxygen. The sooner we get a patient to definitive care and get oxygen to the heart, the less muscle is damaged.

We offer a subscription program whereby an individual, family or business can subscribe for a small fee on a yearly basis. As a subscriber, you receive unlimited emergency medical treatment and transportation through Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service without the worry of ever receiving a bill for medically necessary ambulance services. Of course we reserve the right to bill any and all third party providers. Our friendly and courteous staff will bill your insurance provider directly and whatever the insurance pays, we will accept as payment in full. Subscribership also provides for discounted non-emergency transport services.

We teach CPR and First Aid classes. Call the office at 610-367-2330, or visit our website at www.boyertownems.org

The Boyertown Lions Community Ambulance Service is not an agent of Douglass Township.

HARVEST FELLOWSHIP CHURCH of Colebrookdale will be holding a spring time community-wide yard sale on June 25, 2011 – rain or shine from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Tables will be provided at no charge. All are welcome to come and sell your treasures, or to purchase more. To register email harvest.fellowship@yahoo.com or call the church office (610-367-2853) Monday through Thursday from 8:30am to 4:00pm. 8' tables are provided for the first 22 people who register; others will need to provide their own tables. There is ample space for tables and parking.

PINE FORGE ACADEMY DAY - Monday, May 2, 2011

PINE FORGE ACADEMY CHOIR SPRING CONCERT at the Pine Forge Seventh-day Adventist Church, Saturday, May 14, 2011. Time to be announced.

For more information:

www.pineforgeacademy.org/academy-day

NEW TOWNSHIP BUSINESS – Domenico's Pizzeria 1554 Ben Franklin Highway. 610-385-3220. Check out their website for more information at:

www.domenicospizzarestaurant.com

MA PAW SIBERIAN HUSKY RESCUE & REFERRAL SERVICES, INC. 899 Douglass Drive, 610-369-0055

Beef and Beer Fundraiser – Sat. March 19, 2011 at the Keystone Fire Co., Boyertown. Check their website for more details www.sibes.com or call their office at 610-369-0055. Tickets are \$20 and are available at the door. Beef, beer, door prizes, 50/50 raffle, silent auction and bake sale. Other upcoming events: Garage Sale Fundraiser in May.

PINE FORGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION - Pine Forge Athletic Association is preparing for their 41st season. Opening day ceremonies will be on April 29, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at the Douglass Township field. The Reading Phillies mascot, "Screwball," will be entertaining.

The PFAA organization provides baseball and softball to approximately 400 boys and girls ages five to eighteen with 35 teams. There are various divisions, which enable development of player's skills, along with tournaments that provide advanced play.

The organization was started to provide more opportunities for boys and girls to play baseball and softball. Any inquires about the program can be checked on our website, www.pineforge.org, or by calling 610-367-1053.

COMMUNITY NEWS Continued

PINE FORGE SPORTSMANS CLUB – Upcoming events include the 20th Annual Kids Fish For Free Trout Rodeo being held on April 30th and May 1st at Brookes Brothers Pond (behind the Washington Inn on Route 100). All kids under 16 fish for free. For more information, check their website at <http://www.pineforgesc.com/> or call at 610-777-7111.

Open Subdivisions:

Yorgey Subdivision – Valley Brook Road, 3 residential lots

Brookwood Estates Subdivision – Colebrookdale Road and Goose Run Road, 21 residential lots

Appeals to the Zoning Hearing Board:

Michael Yarnall – Manatawny Drive – Variance granted to construct an addition to an existing pole building.

Arnold Hums – Winding Road – Variance granted for a small increase to maximum building coverage for a garage addition.

HELP WANTED

Planning Commission Member

The Planning Commission consists of five residents who serve as volunteers appointed by the Board of Supervisors for staggered four-year terms.

The Planning Commission is an advisory board to the Board of Supervisors. Its function is to review subdivisions and land development plans, and to make recommendations regarding these matters to the Board of Supervisors.

The Planning Commission meets monthly on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the township building.

If you are interested please contact the Township Office.

Township Office 610-367-8500 Fax 610-367-0360

Office Hours Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

www.co.berks.pa.us/douglass

email: dougberks@comcast.net

Police Department News

A Letter from Chief Franke.....

I have previously asked you to post your house numbers so that your home can be located in the event of an emergency. Many of you still have not posted your house number.

For your own safety you should have signs that reflect the numbers identifying your home at the driveway entrance. If your driveway is access to several homes, the additional numbers should be displayed there as well as a sign saying “Access To”.

As the driveways split off, there should be an additional sign with the numbers posted at that split as well, and again at your house.

Numbers visibly placed ensure responders are not wasting critical minutes to locate your home. We have had several instances recently, where responses were delayed for the inability to locate a house and another where a response vehicle and another motorist collided, as the responder was responding to an emergency, but could not find the right house.

We should be able to identify your house number at a glance.

If you have any questions, please call the police department at the township building. THANK YOU!

Amity Fire Company sells reflective address markers for \$15. Order forms are available at the Township office and on our website.

Abandoned Vehicles The Police are tagging disabled/ abandoned vehicles throughout the Township as a warning to owners, prior to issuing a fine. If you have any questions regarding disabled vehicles, please don't hesitate to ask an officer or call for information. If a violation exists, the penalties can be \$1,000.00 per day for the violation.

Please Remember to wear reflective clothing when jogging or walking.

Berks County
1068 Douglass Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512

DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP

NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2011

Douglass Township Elected and Appointed Officials

Township Supervisors - Chairman Douglass Rhoads; Vice Chairman Rosemarie Bauman; Supervisor Grant Yergey
Township Solicitor - The Law Firm of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin - Joseph McGrory, Esquire
Township Engineer/Zoning Officer/Sewage Enforcement - Systems Design Engineering, Inc. - Thomas Unger, P.E.
Township Manager - Toni L. Hemerka
Treasurer / Clerk - Roseann Garman
Tax Collector - Mary K. Heimbach
Public Works Department - John J. Groff, Roadmaster; Charles Miller; Terry Seyler
Police Department - Chief David K. Franke; Sergeant John W. Dzurek; Patrolman Nicole L. Marth; Patrolmen Kevin D. Mickle
Elected Auditors - Victor Mease; Cheryl Baro; Shirley Birmingham
Planning Commission - Gary Twardowski, Chairman; Kenneth Kirch, Vice Chairman; Richard Stoudt; Grant Yergey
Zoning Hearing Board - Joseph Cioa, Chairman; Eugene Rinehimer, Vice Chairman; Dr. David Szymanski; Alan Golden; David Babb.
Solicitor Eugene Orlando Esq.
Park & Recreation Board - Richard Zuber, Chairman; Pete Dannecker, Vice Chairman; Lesa Surman; Lawrence Martin; Michael Yarnall
Agricultural Security Committee - Robert Shaner; Donald Grim; David Howerter; Warren Lloyd; Douglass Rhoads

2011 Township Meetings

Board of Supervisors - 7 PM - January 3, February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12

Planning Commission - 7 PM - January 18, February 15, March 15, April 19, May 16, June 21, July 19, August 16, September 20, October 18, November 15, December 20

Park and Recreation Committee 7:30 PM - January 10, February 7, March 7, April 4, May 2, June 6, July 5, August 1, September 6, October 3, November 7, December 5