

"The First Douglass"

Douglass Township

NEWS & INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

1068 Douglass Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512

OFFICE 610-367-8500
FAX 610-367-0360

POLICE 610-367-9474

OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
8:30AM-5:00PM

www.co.berks.pa.us/douglass

winter bulletin board

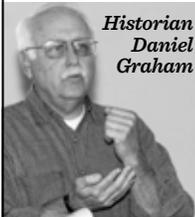
Welcome to incoming Supervisor Grant Yergey.

Thanks to outgoing Supervisor Dorothy Pulcher for six years of service to the Township.

THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS DORIS BAUMAN, SHIRLEY BIRMINGHAM, JANET CONRAD, ELMA MEITZLER, MARIAN RHINEFORD, AND SYLVIA YERGEY. They kindly contributed their time in helping to bring this newsletter to you by folding, labeling, and sealing the 1,500 copies mailed out each quarter. Their efforts are greatly appreciated! Interested in helping out? Please contact Brenda at the Township office.

Contact news.douglass.berks@comcast.net if you have an event or an article idea that you would like to see published in the newsletter.

On December 6, 2009, Pine Forge Historical Society & Thomas Rutter Foundation sponsored a lecture and musical performance. The lecture, given by historian Daniel Graham, was on the interesting origins and early developments of the Pennsylvania iron industry in Pine Forge, PA. There was a short violin and cello performance given by the Dumar family at the outset of the event. During the lecture's intermission, the Pine Forge Academy student a capella quartet, SOHL, performed several song selections, including some original compositions. The event was held at Pine Forge Academy Conference Center. Refreshments and a discussion followed. More events are being planned.



Historian Daniel Graham



Anita

Jonathan

Donna

The Dumar Family

2010 Township Meetings

All will take place at the Township Building.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS • 7 PM

Jan. 4*, Feb. 8, Mar. 8, Apr. 12, May 10, Jun. 14, Jul. 12, Aug. 9, Sept. 13, Oct. 11, Nov. 8, Dec. 13

*Annual reorganization took place at this meeting.

PLANNING COMMISSION • 7 PM

Jan. 19, Feb. 16, Mar. 16, Apr. 20, May 17, Jun. 15, Jul. 20, Aug. 17, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, Dec. 21

PARK & RECREATION COMMITTEE • 7:30 PM

Jan. 11, Feb. 1, Mar. 1, Apr. 5, May 3, Jun. 7, Jul. 6, Aug. 2, Sept. 7, Oct. 4, Nov. 1, Dec. 6

ZONING HEARING BOARD

will meet as needed. Dates and times will be advertised.

AUDITORS Jan. 5

Annual reorganization took place at this meeting.

"Code of Ordinances of the Township of Douglass" is complete. The Township has 183 Ordinances dating back to 1949. They are now organized into a 27-chapter document, enabling residents to easily access all Township laws.

www.keystatepub.com/keystate-pdf/PA/Berks/Douglass%20Township/Introduction.pdf

The link can also be found on the home page of the Township Web site: www.co.berks.pa.us/douglass.

Once there, click on "Ordinances" in the menu at the left side of the page.

New Ordinance Adopted in November 2009 by the Board of Supervisors

ORDINANCE NO. 2009-5 • Chapter 27, Part 7, Section 702.2.G

An ordinance amending the Douglass Township Code of Ordinances for the purpose of allowing by right, a temporary dwelling unit attached to a principal dwelling for use by immediate family members of principal dwelling's owner.

2010 RECYCLING INFORMATION

Douglass Township A paper retrieval bin is located at the Township Building for dropping off newspapers, catalogs, magazines, office and school papers, and junk mail. Phone books are not accepted.

Berks County For more information, go to www.co.berks.pa.us/swa or call 610-478-6362

Recycling containers are placed monthly at the Boyertown Borough garage. The garage is located off South Reading Avenue, across from the Salvation Army. Drop-off days are Wednesday through Sunday, beginning on the following dates each month: January 27, February 24, March 24, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 14, August 11, September 8, October 6, November 3, December 29.

MATERIALS	ITEMS ACCEPTED	ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED	PREPARATION
GLASS	Clear, green, and brown bottles and jars, such as soda or beer bottles and food containers.	Windows and plate glass, light bulbs, crystal, ceramics, or any type of tempered glass.	Rinse food and beverage containers. Labels can be left on. Do not deposit broken glass.
ALUMINUM CANS	Aluminum food and beverage cans only.	Foil, frozen entrée pans, pie tins, aluminum lawn furniture.	Rinse cans. Crush or leave as is. Labels can be left on.
BI-METAL CANS	Any food containers for vegetables, fruit, soup, and juice.	Aerosol cans, oil cans, paint cans, and scrap metals.	Rinse cans. Crush or leave as is. Labels can be left on.
PLASTICS: #1 to #7 BOTTLES AND CONTAINERS ONLY	Soft-drink bottles, and containers for milk, water, juice, laundry, dish detergents, bleaches, or fabric softeners.	Toys, chairs, flowerpots. Anything other than a container.	Remove lids or caps (these are regular trash). Rinse and clean containers.
CORRUGATED CARDBOARD	Clean, dry, corrugated cardboard, shipping boxes.	Oily or wet cardboard boxes.	Flatten boxes and cut them in 2-foot sections. Bundle securely with twine.

HAZARDOUS WASTE 8AM-2 PM • April 10 Exeter Township Municipal Building • October 16 First Energy Stadium, Rt. 61

MATERIALS	ITEMS ACCEPTED	ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED	PREPARATION
OIL PAINTS	Turpentine, wood preservatives, paint thinners and solvents, oil-based paints, varnishes, stains	Joint and caulking compound, organic peroxides, gas cylinders, explosives and ammunition, radioactive waste, infectious or medical waste, water-based sealants, lead acid batteries. 55-gallon drums. Commercial waste. Anything weighing more than 200 pounds.	Do not mix the materials. Tighten lids on all containers. If containers are leaking, pack in larger containers. Bring all materials in original containers with labels, if possible. If not in original labeled container, please identify the material on the container you use.
OUTDOOR PRODUCTS	Weedkillers, pesticides, asphalt and driveway sealants, pool chemicals, herbicides, fungicides		
AUTOMOTIVE	Antifreeze, gasoline, transmission oil, motor oil, automotive paints and finishes		
HOUSEHOLD	Solvents and disinfectants; rug, oven and drain cleaners; floor and furniture polish; lithium, NiCad and button batteries, photographic chemicals		

ELECTRONICS 8AM-2 PM • April 16 & 17 Exeter Township Municipal Building • September 24 & 25 First Energy Stadium, Rt. 61

ITEMS ACCEPTED
Computers, monitors, laptops, keyboards, modems, printers. Radios, stereos, televisions, VCRs. Fax machines, copiers. Telephones, answering machines, mobile phones, microwaves, fluorescent bulbs. Items containing chemicals (air conditioners, and so forth)
Fees: TV's: \$18; all other electronic items: \$1; batteries \$.075 per pound

TIRES 8AM-2 PM • May 1 Exeter Township Municipal Building • October 9 First Energy Stadium, Rt. 61

ITEMS ACCEPTED
Standard passenger and light truck tires measuring between 20" and 33" in diameter, and between 6" and 13" in diameter. Tires must be free of mud and debris and must not be deformed.
Fees: Standard tires: \$2 each; standard tires on rims: \$3 each

PHARMACEUTICALS 8AM-2 PM • April 24 Exeter Township Municipal Building • October 2 First Energy Stadium, Rt. 61

ITEMS ACCEPTED	PREPARATION
Unwanted and expired medications, both prescription and over-the-counter, in tablet, liquid, ointment, inhaler, powder, or patch form.	Medications should remain in their original containers. Do not remove labels. Personal information (names and addresses, for example) should be crossed out, but medication information should be legible.

Township 2010 Operating Budget

There will be no increase in taxes for Douglass Township in 2010. The total income in the General Fund includes projected proceeds from the sale of the house, barn, and 12 acres at 899 Douglass Drive. Sale of the property did not take place as planned in 2009.

2010 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

- The pole-building construction planned for 2009 started in January 2010.
- One Township parking lot will be repaved.
- The roof and two overhead doors will be replaced on the equipment garage.
- Money will be set aside for future purchase of a loader construction vehicle.

There will be no increase in the sewer rate in 2010. There are currently 262 connections to the sanitary sewer system. Each connection currently pays \$120 per quarter for the service. The sewer rates completely cover the cost of maintenance and operation, and no tax dollars are involved in the sewer fund.

The Liquid Fuels Fund is aid the Township receives from the state that must be used for road maintenance and repairs. In order to ensure that all Township roads remain in the best possible condition, a major project is planned each year, if possible. The 2010 project remains undetermined at this time.

Douglass Township is in sound fiscal condition. We strive to keep costs down by allocating funds wisely. If you have any questions about the operating budget, please feel free to contact the Township Manager, Toni Hemerka.

GENERAL FUND

INCOME	
Taxes	\$ 776,576.00
Licenses & Permits	\$ 32,100.00
Fines	\$ 14,000.00
Interest	\$ 45,000.00
Land Rental	\$ 2,592.00
Intergovernmental Revenues	\$ 51,900.00
Charges for Service	\$ 93,669.00
Sale of Assets	\$ 300,000.00
Interfund Operating Transfers	\$ 125,800.00
Refund for Prior Year Expenses	\$ 15,000.00

TOTAL INCOME \$ 1,456,637.00

EXPENSES

General Government	\$ 373,584.00
Police	\$ 362,585.00
Public Safety	\$ 191,725.00
Health & Human Services	\$ 3,600.00
Public Works - Sanitation	\$ 15,000.00
Roads and Streets	\$ 285,325.00
Recreation	\$ 49,100.00
Insurances	\$ 25,571.00
Hydrant Fees	\$ 2,475.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 1,308,965.00

Yearly Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 147,672.00
Total Fund Balances Forwarded	\$ 3,617,731.00
Net Surplus	\$ 3,765,403.00

SEWER FUND

INCOME	
Interest	\$ 2,300.00
Permits/Connection Fees/User Fees	\$ 130,000.00
Finance Charges/Certification Fees	\$ 1,050.00

TOTAL INCOME \$ 133,350.00

EXPENSES

Operating Expenses	\$ 7,450.00
Sewage Treatment	\$ 37,400.00
Salaries/Benefits	\$ 16,000.00
Transfer to Other Funds	\$ 36,100.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 96,950.00

Yearly Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 36,400.00
Total Fund Balances Forwarded	\$ 408,213.00
Net Surplus	\$ 444,613.00

LIQUID FUELS FUND

INCOME	\$ 127,779.00
EXPENSES	\$ 43,800.00
Yearly Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 83,979.00
Total Fund Balances Forwarded	\$ 41,155.00
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ 125,134.00

Elected and Appointed Officials

SUPERVISORS

Chairman Douglass Rhoads

Vice Chairman Rosemarie Bauman

Supervisor Grant Yergey

Township Solicitor The law firm of Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell & Lupin

Township Engineer Systems Design Engineers Inc.

Sewage Enforcement Officer Thomas Unger

Township Manager Toni Hemerka
managerdouglass@comcast.net

Township Treasurer/Clerk Brenda Sturdevant

Tax Collector Mary K. Heimbach

Emergency Management Director Chief of Police
David Franke

Vacancy Board Peter Danneker

ROAD CREW

Roadmaster John Groff; Crew Charles Miller, Terry Seyler

AUDITORS

Chairman Victor "Ed" Mease

Secretary Cheryl Baro

Shirley Birmingham

PLANNING COMMISSION

Chairman Gary Twardowski

Vice Chairman Kenneth Kirch,

Richard Stoudt, Warren Lloyd, Grant Yergey

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Chairman Joseph Cioa

Vice Chairman Eugene Rinehimer

Dr. David Szymanski, Alan Golden, David Babb

PARK AND RECREATION BOARD

Chairman Richard Zuber

Lesa Surman, Pete Dannecker,

Lawrance Martin, Michael Yarnall

AGRICULTURE SECURITY AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Donald Grim, David Howerter, Warren Lloyd,

Douglass Rhoads, Robert Shaner

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE APPEALS BOARD

Alex Guzik, Donna Howard, Robert Calahan

The Township Web site, www.co.berks.pa.us/Douglass, has links to local, state, and federal government sites, along with meeting minutes, budget, announcements, and more.

Submit newsletter articles to managerdouglass@comcast.net

If you prefer a pdf rather than a paper copy of this newsletter, e-mail managerdouglass@comcast.net

DOUGLASS/BERKS NEWSLETTER

Editing & Design Rita Baker

Content Toni Hemerka

Douglass Township

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1068 Douglass Drive
Boyertown, PA 19512

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IN THIS ISSUE

> WINTER BULLETIN
BOARD p. 1

> 2010 BERKS COUNTY
RECYCLING SCHEDULE
UPDATE p. 2

> 2010 DOUGLASS
TOWNSHIP OPERATING
BUDGET p. 3

YOUR DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER IS HERE

From the Desk of Dave Franke | Douglass Township Chief of Police

Car Seat Installation Training Is Available to Residents

The Douglass Township Police Department now has a certified child-safety-seat technician. Officer Nicole Marth recently completed the National Child Passenger Safety (CPS) Certification Training Program. As a certified technician and instructor, she can demonstrate how to properly install your child's car seat in your vehicle. The law requires children to be safely secured in an age, height, and size-appropriate seat while riding in a vehicle. Proper installation is vital in reducing your child's risk of injury in a crash. Product use instructions often fail in explaining how to do this correctly, so we would like to help you.

You are encouraged to make an appointment with Officer Marth by calling the Township office, 610-367-8500, Mon. to Fri. between 9:00AM and 4:00PM. Brenda Sturdevant will assist you in scheduling a time during one of Officer Marth's shifts. You're invited to use this service provided by Douglass Township Police Department and give yourself greater peace of mind, knowing that your child is secured safely in his or her seat.

Periodic child safety-seat clinics will be scheduled during 2010. For more information, check the Douglass Township Web site, or call the Township office.

If you are interested in learning more about child safety, visit www.safekids.org



"Safe Kids USA is a member of a network of organizations whose mission is to prevent accidental childhood injury."

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY WANTS YOU! A reminder that the Douglass Township Emergency Management Agency is seeking help with logistics during local emergency-response efforts. The need is great and the time commitment is small. Contact Chief Franke at the Township office to get more information. Training is free.