



EAST NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2006

Editor: PJ Scheese Staff: Anne Broomall Beth Cartwright Margie Ronallo Dianna Stuckey Betty Summers

Letter from the Staff



New residents coming from more populated areas, please consider your neighbors and the following:

Just because you live in the "country" does not mean all properties, including large fields and pastures, are not owned by someone. Some new residents do not understand the concept of property lines when faced with wide open space. An open field should not be considered an invitation to four wheelers, dirt bikes and snow mobiles. Simply put, it is wrong to assume it is okay to use that property for our own purposes. If we do not have permission to be on that property, we are trespassing, thereby breaking the law. If the other side of a fence is an open pasture, do not assume it is okay to throw yard waste, grass clippings, branches, leaves and such onto the neighboring property. Please respect your neighbor's property.

The same goes for small domestic animals. Pennsylvania law prohibits dogs running loose. An unattended domestic animal is subject to this law and the owner can face heavy fines or worse. In the country, wondering animals are known to occasionally disappear. All sorts of predators are in the country. So for those who love their pets, we suggest you keep them leashed.

Horses and other farm animals...where do we start? Large farm animals can weigh over 1,000 pounds. If an animal that large steps on, leans on or charges a small child, that child is in serious danger. Did you know that a horse's jaws are so powerful that it could bite an adult's finger off without even knowing it? Feeding large farm animals can be very dangerous. Some may say "well if anything happens, the animal's owner is responsible," but it is small consolation to an injured child.

Country living has wonderful benefits, but comes with responsibility. Just as there are boundaries in suburban areas, so there are in the country. Rule of thumb is if you do not own the property, and you were not invited, you are an unwelcome visitor. Parks are available for the benefit of all residents of the Oxford area. Feel free to frequent them, obeying their rules as well.



If you have a question or a comment, please send your letter to the editor at enteditor@zoominternet.net!

TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY

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Leo M. Levandowski Vice-Chairperson
Charles D. Shelton Supervisor

Planning Commission

Joseph R. Bauer, Jr. Chairperson
Clifford Lee Vice-Chairperson
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Walt Leis 2 Open Seats

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Glenna Jordan Co-Chairperson
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Daniel T. Miller, Jr. Scott Moran
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Oxford Area Recreational Authority Reps.

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Township Secretary

Pat Brady

Zoning Officer/Code

PJ Scheese

Enforcement Officer

Treasurer

Suzanne Hamlin

Tax Collector

Dee Thompson

Solicitor

Winifred M. Sebastian

The newsletter staff would like to welcome all new officials and thank outgoing officials for their efforts these past years. Both elected and appointed officials work very hard for little or no pay, donating their personal time for the benefit of ENT residents.

As one of the Supervisors has said on a number of occasions, he does it for the glory. Well, anyone who followed the election last year knows there is no glory in doing any of these jobs. Nevertheless, the positions must be filled and work must be done. These people should be appreciated for their efforts and we are taking this opportunity to thank them all.

Open Space Update



Two properties in ENT have been targeted by the County for the Challenge Grant Program for Open Space Preservation. One is a 46.4 acre lot, located along Media Road at the Elk Township border. The township's portion for the purchase of this open space easement will be \$247,848.75.

The second property is 74.4 acres located near the southwest corner of the intersection of Mt. Pleasant and Little Elk Creek Roads. The township's portion of the payment for this conservation easement will be about \$446,000.

This money will eventually come from the 0.5% earned income tax that was passed, for this purpose, in the November 2004 election. For now the township will be borrowing from a Bond Pool for the monies. For more information, we suggest coming to a Board of Supervisors meeting to ask questions.

Community Star



We are fortunate to have local residents who work hard to ensure we live in a safe, healthy, and productive community. These people work without pay and often without due respect and recognition. Our Community Star is someone who has volunteered countless hours on many local projects. Teri D'Ignazio is our selection for Community Star!

Teri lives in Lower Oxford Township and is active throughout the community. Due to the area's small size she feels the Borough and surrounding townships must communicate, plan and work together for the best possible future for all residents. Our lives are interconnected. What happens in ENT will affect what happens in Lower Oxford Township, etc. Everyone should pay attention.

Teri grew up in Newtown Square and the Westtown area. She met her husband while on vacation in the Bahamas and first came to the Oxford area to visit her future father-in-law in 1974. Teri and her husband moved to Lower Oxford Township in 1983. Their daughter was born in 1989 and Teri initially became involved locally with a Nursing Mothers Group and the Oxford Center for Dance.

Teri was a busy career travel agent and mom in 1995 when she was diagnosed with breast cancer. Teri took a year's sabbatical to receive chemotherapy and, having to face her mortality, asked herself "What is my legacy?" With this thought, Teri plunged into community work. She became a member of several boards, such as the Oxford Area Trail Society and the Lower Susquehanna Heritage Greenway. Teri enjoyed meeting people from the area and other communities. She connected with far-reaching programs and continued to learn about local issues. Teri becomes very excited when talking about networking, and says "it is so important, you never know where it will lead you and that is the adventure of life."

Sometime around 1999 Teri attended a conditional hearing for Oxford Commons. She states "it was then I realized the power held by the leadership of our townships, how their decisions affect our future directly." Teri joined with other residents forming a citizens' action group dedicated to educating themselves in the procedures of local government and of land and natural resource conservation. An offspring of this citizen effort was the formation of the Oxford Area Vision Project. This was a Countryside Exchange program via a grant from Chester County 2020. The goal was to identify Oxford's pressing issues and host a panel of seven selected international and national experts to study the problems. The local organizing committee held Town Meetings for discussions on the future of the Oxford region. Citizens determined the focus issues would be Downtown Revitalization, Agriculture Preservation, and Multi-Municipal Planning. The panel concluded that the townships must work and plan together to achieve a more cohesive area. Oxford needs to respect and protect its natural resources including water. Residents must also realize how important it is to preserve our farmlands. (Report can be accessed at library). Because of those conclusions, Teri worked with ENT residents to help pass the Land Preservation Referendum last year.

Teri continues to attend Lower Oxford meetings and ran for Supervisor in this last election, losing by a slim margin. She still works full-time in travel and part-time for the local Welcome Neighbor greeting service. She enjoys her memberships in the Friendship Quilters Guild, the Brandywine Fiber Guild and Octoraro Watershed Association.

This article is just a quick synopsis of Teri's involvements and accomplishments. We will end with a quotation Teri feels defines her motivation: "I am only one, but I am still one. I cannot do everything, but I can still do something, and because I cannot do everything I will not refuse to do the something I can do" - Edward Everett Hale.

Rural Living



This is the time of year when the finches, chickadees, cardinals, and several other bird species struggle to find food. Most birds need to eat 2 to 2½ times their weight each day. By January there are few seeds left on flowers and grasses. We can help the local bird population by placing bird feeders in our yards.

Bird feeders can be simple and cheap or complicated and expensive. The easiest way to start is with pinecones. At some time in our lives we probably put peanut butter on pinecones, rolled the cones in bird feed, and tied the cones to tree branches. This is a wonderful activity for the entire family and provides the birds with a good food source.

If you want to purchase a feeder, there is a wide variety available. For first timers, a tube feeder is best. They range in size from 6 inches to over 3 feet long. The expensive ones are constructed of metal to prevent squirrels from chewing on the ports and escaping with all of the seed. If squirrels are not a problem, then a plastic feeder is all you need. These can be purchased at any of the local hardware stores.

Seed is your next purchase. There are several choices here. Most common and easiest to find is a wild birdseed mix. It contains a mixture of small and large seeds, including black oil sunflower seeds, and appeals to a wide range of birds. It works particularly well with the pinecone feeders. You can also buy thistle seed, a fine black seed that all species of finches love. However, if you do buy thistle seed you will need a feeder with very small feeding ports. Some people prefer black oil sunflower seeds in their feeders. It is a high protein feed that all birds like, and spring clean up around the feeders is much easier.

So, fill up the feeder and hang it on a shepherd's hook or a nearby tree. Be patient, it may take several days for the birds to find your feeder, but you will soon be rewarded with a variety of birds. Please remember, that once you start feeding the birds, you need to continue. You have become their main food source for a happy and healthy winter.

Waterway Road & Fifth Street Intersection



We are very sorry to inform you that the Oxford Area School Board has yet to step up to the plate on this one. One of our township supervisors, Dave Shelton, wrote the school board a letter requesting they consider reimbursing ENT the money spent correcting a problem created by the school board.

Chauncey Boyd, after reading the letter at the November school board meeting, had no comment. Neither did any of the other board members. One would have hoped that at least one of the ENT representatives would have spoken up on behalf of their own township.

Dog Licenses



All dogs aged three months or older are required by Chester County to have a current year dog license. Non-compliance could result in fines up to \$300. Visit their website at <http://www.chesco.org> for an application or contact the Office of the Treasurer.

| Annual Fees | Regular Fees | Disabilities/Sr. Citizens |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Not neutered/spayed: | \$8.00 | \$6.00 |
| Neutered/spayed | \$6.00 | \$4.00 |

| Lifetime License Fees* | Regular Fees | Disabilities/Sr. Citizens |
|------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| Not neutered/spayed: | \$51.00 | \$31.00 |
| Neutered/spayed | \$31.00 | \$21.00 |

*Dog must be tattooed on upper part of inner right rear thigh, or have a microchip inserted between the shoulder blades.

Please call the Treasurer's Office (610) 344-6370 for information.

Fees payable to: Chester County Treasurer
Alan Randzin
Mail to: Chester County Treasurer
2 High Street, Suite 120
West Chester, PA 19380

For problems with strays or animal cruelty complaints, call (610) 692-6113. Note that the SPCA will only pick up animals that are already confined.

Township Services

For problems regarding snow and ice removal on township roads, call the township office at (610) 932-8494. Be aware, however, not all roads are township owned. State-maintained roads are:

| | |
|----------------|--------------|
| Baltimore Pike | Fifth Street |
| Route 472 | Forge Road |
| Route 272 | Media Road |
| Chrome Road | Oxford Road |
| Barnsley Road | Saginaw Road |
| Elkdale Road | |

For snow removal on these roads call PennDOT at (610) 436-1900.



The OARA has again set aside an area in ENT for sledding this winter. Two parking lots are available.

- **Site 1** is out Locust Street, cross over the bypass, there is a lane on the left, almost directly across from the entrance to the sewage treatment plant.
- **Site 2** is out Locust Street to Oaks Road, left onto Oaks to the lane entrance on the left.

For more information call the **OARA** at (610) 932-8447 or Lee Towner at (610) 932-3371.

ENT had its first visit from Santa on

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December 3 and we have a few people to thank for their donations of time, money, decorations, etc. They are:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Shelton Family | Robinson's Furniture |
| Olivieri Family | Gene Boneker |
| Herr's | PJ and Joe Scheese |
| Tastykake | Pat and Cru Brady |
| Cameron's | Beryl and Les Dilworth |
| Oxford Tribune | PEPSI |
| Acme Markets | Armstrong Cable |
| Union Fire Co. #1 | Bill Weaver |
| Freedom Valley Girl Scout Troop #444 | |

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped make Santa's visit a memorable one.

Scout Troop #444



Please note that the speed limits on many of the township's roads have been lowered, some to as low as 20 mph. These changes were made for the safety of the residents in the area. Please make your best effort to observe the updated limits.

Election Results



Everyone has seen the results from the November election, but we would like to explain how the Board of Supervisors will transition to a five-man board as approved in the election.

In the November 2006 election, two additional board members will be elected. One will serve a three-year term and the other will serve a five-year term in order to stagger the term expiration for those seats. All board members elected after that time will serve the standard six-year term.

If you are interested in running for township supervisor, contact Chester County Voter Services. You will need ten signatures on your nomination petition, and papers must be filed by March 8, 2006.

Amended Ordinance

The Zoning Ordinance Book has been amended. The Supervisors voted to adopt it on December 29, 2005. It became effective on January 3, 2006. The new book should be available for purchase in February at a cost of \$25.00. The township hopes to have it on the ENT website before the end of January. Any questions regarding this should be directed to the township zoning officer.

East Nottingham Township

158 Election Road

Oxford, PA 19363

Tel: 610-932-8494

secretary@zoominternet.net

Contact your newsletter staff at

enteditor@zoominternet.net



Visit Us on the Web
www.eastnottingham.org

2006 Meeting Dates

Supervisors Planning Commission

Tuesday, Feb. 14 Monday, Feb. 27

Tuesday, March 14 Monday, March 27

Tuesday, April 11 Monday, April 24

Supervisors meetings are now held the second Tuesday of the month.

All meetings are at 7 pm at the Twp. Bldg.

Winter 2006

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