

Haycock Township Report

*Published by the Board of Supervisors
Edited by Chris Bauer*



Website available 24/7

Our official Haycock Township website, www.haycocktwp.com is your central location for many resources, including the recycling center status, what can be recycled, meeting schedules, community calendars, download ordinances, tax forms, zoning & building applications and more.

The website, created and maintained completely by Township staff, is available 24 hours a day and is there to allow standard business to take place at your convenience.

Watch for a freshly designed www.haycocktwp.com in the coming months!

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New Recycling Program an Overwhelming Success!

The new co-mingled recycling program has far exceeded our expectations. Since being implemented late in 2006, the amount recycled in the co-mingled container has nearly doubled to over 38 tons in 2007. It also has increased the frequency that it needs to be emptied from once per month to every other week. In addition, we now accept corrugated cardboard in its own container.

We have had some issues with the container being full and that people have had to take their recyclables back home again. We have tried to address this by placing a status indicator on the home page of our website which is available 24 hours per day and is generally updated at least once a week, sometimes more often if the situation warrants. You may also call the office during business hours and we will gladly check for you. We want the recycling center to be as convenient as possible for our residents. If you happen to come in and the bin is full, you may place your bags of recyclables between the co-mingled and cardboard bins. Please do not place bags on any other side as the driver may pick up the container any time of day as their schedule permits. We will put the bags in the container when it returns empty.

We want to get the word out that it is mandatory in Bucks County that waste haulers offer a curbside recycling program and you may want to inquire as to whether your hauler is in compliance with this new law.

The Haycock Elementary TPO has a mixed paper collection receptacle at the school. You are welcome to use this container when the school grounds are open. Please be sure to follow whatever rules and regulations that they may have in place.

On a related note, we would like to thank Tony Delguerico, owner of Delguerico's Wrecking and Salvage, for helping us to choose the proper container and providing the hauling for us at no charge thus



Recycling Center is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year

Happy 25th Anniversary Nancy Yodis

Although we could call it "35 years", in October 2007 we officially celebrated Nancy's 25th year with the Township. First traveling by way of Tax Collector in 1972, on to Census Enumerator in 1978, Nancy then entered the Township building as Zoning Officer in 1982.

Landing in the seat of Secretary/Treasurer in 1986, she settled in the perfect spot. Nancy's knowledge and execution of the job has surely served the residents of this Township well. We are all very fortunate as she continues to serve our community.



**CONGRATULATIONS AND
THANK YOU NANCY!!**



Neighborhood Watch Programs



After the recent break-ins in Haycock Township, a few residents inquired about starting a neighborhood watch program in their area. The Supervisors think that that is a proactive response to combating crime in a rural-type area like Haycock.

The procedure to establish a neighborhood watch is specific, yet simple. It involves a coordinated effort between the Pennsylvania State Police, the Township and the residents requesting to start the neighborhood watch.

The following are some of the things that may be needed:

- A person or group of people committed to starting a neighborhood watch.
- A list of what issues initially need to be addressed.
- A means of communicating with the residents.
- A place to meet.
- A crime prevention officer to discuss the crime issues in the neighborhood and to

help train members.

- A sign up sheet for those interested in becoming block captains.
- Neighborhood Watch signs
- Facts about crime in your neighborhood

The Township will provide the signs and related installation once the Neighborhood Watch is established. Contact us at the office for more information.

Seniors “Get Out There”

Sounds like a cruise line commercial? Well, not quite but it is true that there are many programs out there for our senior citizens to take part in, some free, some low cost.

In Haycock we have the Haycock Senior Citizens group who get together regularly at various locations for breakfast and lunch.

In Bucks County, there is the Area Agency on Aging, who hold numerous events throughout the year to educate seniors on what is available to them from their government. One of its largest events is the Annual Bucks County Senior Games, in its 26th year, providing a week of games including tennis, bocce, golf, swimming, bicycling, track and field, darts and badminton, etc. There are also health screenings, seminars, entertainment, a fashion show, bingo and refreshments at the Health expo on the kickoff day of May 29th and an awards luncheon on the final day of June 6th. Seniors 50 years and older are invited and registration is \$8 per person before May 2nd and \$13 after May 2nd.

The Senior Games are also sponsored by the Bucks County Dept. of Parks and Recreation, and Independence Blue Cross/Keystone Health Plan East. For more information please visit www.haycocktwp.com, www.buckscounty.org/AAA.htm or call 215-348-6116 or 215-489-5132.

Volunteers are also needed for the games; Call Jill Unger at 215-489-5132 if you are interested in helping.

For more info you can also contact Supervisor Henry DePue at 215-536-5103

3rd Annual Upper Bucks Forum on Aging

Celebrate National Older Americans Month by attending the 3rd Annual Upper Bucks Forum on Aging that will be held on May 2, 2008 from 1PM to 3:30PM at Benner Hall, 1260 Cherry Street in Richlandtown. This free, public educational event is presented to provide citizens 50 years and older with valuable information about health and human services.

This event is sponsored by Phoebe Richland Health Care Center, Richland and Haycock Townships, the Boroughs of Richlandtown, Quakertown, Trumbauersville and Perkasio. Additionally, the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging, the Phoebe Institute on Aging and the Bucks County Long Term Care Consortium support this program. Multiple speakers will be presenting information on many topics.

Kids Fishing Adventure at Lake Towhee

The Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation will sponsor a new **JR. FISHING CAMP at LAKE TOWHEE PARK** - Old Bethlehem Road, Applebachsville, Haycock Township. This fishing program will be for kids age 9 to 14 years (as of July 1, 2008) Kids will explore different locations with different fishing environments and water eco systems. The camp will originate at Lake Towhee Park. Fishing visits will be made to Lake Towhee Park, Lake Nockamixon, Tohickon Creek and the pond behind Weisel Hostel. Class size is a minimum of 9 and 16 maximum in order to hold the camp.

DATES: July 14 to 19 , 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

COST: \$50 per child which includes instruction, equipment, and staffing for the week. For further information and registration forms call Jill Unger, Bucks County Department of Parks and Recreation, 215-489-5132.

Open Space and Agricultural Security Area News

2007 was another busy year for the Open Space Program in Haycock Township, with an additional 50 acres on Stony Garden Road across from Potters Lane being preserved as state game lands. This preservation took over two years to complete and was made possible through the cooperation of many entities, including:

- The Martha Kuney family
- Neighbor Linda Pasqua-Blaise
- Funding from the Pennsylvania DCNR
- Funding from the Pennsylvania Game Commission
- Funding from Bucks County
- Funding from Haycock Township
- Ted Evans and Natural Lands Trust
- Supervisor and Township Coordinator Henry DePue.

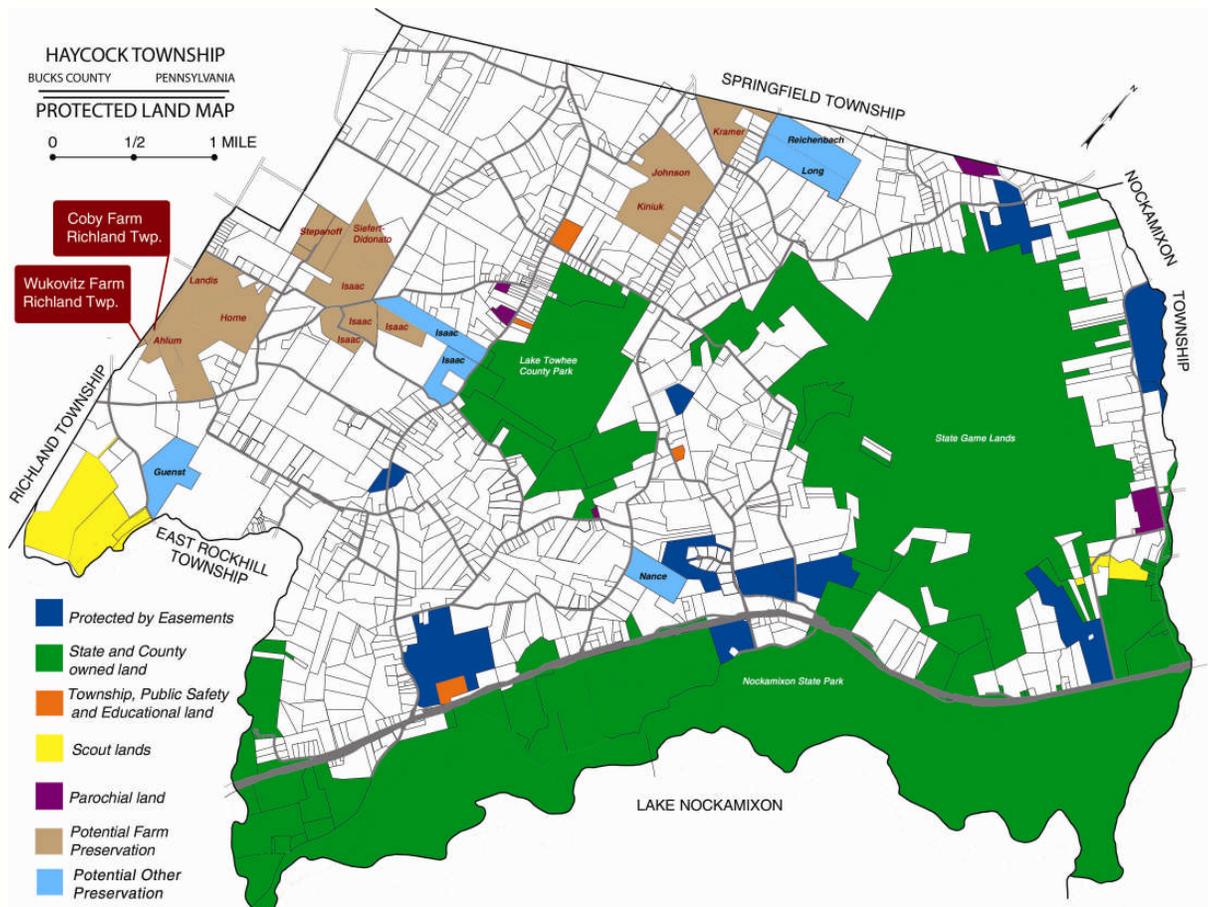
Also in 2007, Haycock Township formed its first Agricultural Security Area, which, among other things, paves the way for future potential farm preservation. Over 1000 acres is now included in the ASA and anyone else interested should contact the Township Office for more information. There is no cost to join the ASA but you should have at least 10 acres and meet minimum soils requirements.

This year Haycock will have its first farm preserved under the Bucks County Agricultural Preservation Program. The 125-acre Isaac property located at Apple and Strawtown Roads has been confirmed and is proceeding through the final steps. Two additional farms, Evelyn & John Ahlum on West Thatcher Road and Jeanette Landis on Apple Road, will be added to the list for consideration. These farms, along with small Haycock portions of the Wukovitz and Coby farms of Richland Township, will cover about 320 acres in one contiguous area.

Haycock Township has identified five other large properties that the owners are interested in preserving within the Natural Areas Preservation Program. These sites have been inspected and recommended to Bucks County to be preserved. The township is waiting to see how much funding will be allocated to our Preservation Program from last years referendum.

Speaking of the Open Space referendum, it was noted that Haycock Township had the highest voter percentage of people in favor of the referendum with over 86% voting "YES". This shows that Haycock residents are very interested in preserving our Township the way it is and the Supervisors and staff will continue to work towards those interests.

With the Isaac property, Haycock Township has protected 603 acres of land, and including the County and State parks, game lands and Boy Scout/Girl Scout lands, nearly 6,000 of Haycock's 12,620 acres will be preserved.



Winter Memories

Contributed by Susan Kleiner-Grew of the Haycock Historical Society

In the early 20th century, the snow in Haycock drifted, piled up and made for many fond memories. Several long-time township residents recollect a few of those memories below.

Rich Cope was born and still lives in Haycock with his wife, Jane, off Harrisburg School Road. Cope recalled some memories that went as follows:

"At Cope's Corner, across from the Mt. Airy Schoolhouse (at the intersection of Thatcher and Mt. Airy roads), the snow was always deeper. It blew across Anna and John Ahlum's fields. Snow fences were erected by the state to stop the snow blowing from the direction of Richlandtown."

"One winter in the early 50's we had a typical snow, which closed the road from (the village of) Thatcher to Quakertown. Often, the road was closed during a storm. We had to wait hours for the big state snowplows that would bust through the snowdrifts."

"I remember one time, we were watching out the window and there was a band of men pulling a sled with a pregnant lady. They were guys from the fire company and they knocked on the doors of the houses they passed recruiting men to shovel snow so that they could get through. Just past the Ahlum farm was an ambulance to take the lady to the hospital."

Martha Kocsis, owner of the Stoney Point Grocery on Route 412 in Springfield Township, grew up in Haycock on a farm owned by her grandparents, Floyd and Irene Streepy, located at Potters Lane and Stony Garden Road.

Martha recalled some winters when the snow was higher than her home's windows. She said they would have to make tunnels in the drifts to get from the house to their outbuildings. She also said the family used to bake bread every snowstorm to keep the house warm.

Emer Chapman, daughter of the late artist Ed Lehman, said the pond on her father's property off Country Lane froze over each year by mid-January. She said her father would test the strength of the ice by sliding out onto the surface on his belly secured by a rope. In regard to determining the strength of the ice, she said her father would say that if it held him it was strong enough and then they could go skating. Lehman was best known for sketches of the Kennedy White House, but equally well known in the area as an avid outdoorsman.

Albert Kinzler, who is in his 80s, still lives on the family farm on East Sawmill Road and continues to be an active farmer and gardener. He recalled that in 1937 or 1938 it snowed so much they shoveled for a whole week to get the level of the snow down to two feet so a plow could handle the rest. During the day and then by moonlight, he recalled, they shoveled, working from 8 am to 11 am the next day to begin clearing a route from Sawmill to Old Bethlehem roads.

Ivan Belac, who was born in 1932 in a house on Roundhouse Road, recollected ice skating at night on the frozen ponds in the woods next to the original Haycock school, which is now a private home across from the new school at Old Bethlehem and East Sawmill roads. He said they would build bonfires to keep warm on those winter nights and that snow usually arrived by Thanksgiving and remained for months.

Bill Pieschel, 86, was born at his family's farm located on what was Pieschel Road, but now known as Woodbine Lane.

In 1928, he recalled, his brother Dick was born during a snowstorm. Dr. Bill Weisel of Quakertown came to the house to deliver the child and ended up getting snowed in with the family.

He said during heavy snowfalls, he and other members of the community would join what was called the "Haycock Snow Shovelers," which was a temporary snow removal department of the township. Shovelers were paid 20-cents per hour.

Bill recalled, "If you saw a group begin to gather, you fell in. Men worked in pairs. You'd cut the snow in blocks the size of your shovel and heave it aside. Everything was done by hand. And you never walk where you are going to shovel so as not to make the job harder."

Bill used a grain shovel and said it helped to wax the shovel so snow will slide off easier. He said they had to shovel out Woodbine Lane nine times one winter.

"We weren't equipped like today," Bill said. "There were a lot of poor people in Haycock (then) so men might shovel in the worst conditions in clothes and shoes not fit for the task."

The purpose of the Haycock Historical Society is to research and preserve the history of Haycock and to promote and perpetuate public interest and to inform the public generally of the rich heritage of Haycock Township. Besides membership dues, the Society raises funds with sales of commemorative plates, calendars, books and events including Kringle Shoppe and a summer flea market.

Please visit www.haycockhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

Road Report Ahead

Road work scheduled for 2008 includes replacement of the large cross pipes under East Thatcher Road at the intersection of Old Bethlehem Road.

This project is expected to take one or two days and will result in the road being closed throughout the daytime hours of the project.

Depending on availability of funds, we may be overlaying a small section of a road. Which road will also be determined by the amount of funds available.

Also scheduled for summer is the regular oil and chip maintenance seal coat. This is scheduled for the following roads:

Roudenbush Road
Mission Road
East Thatcher Road
Cobbler Road—paved section
Creamery Road—paved section

Seal coating is necessary every five years or so to keep the road in good shape. This is likened to sealing a blacktop driveway

with the chips being added to allow traffic on the road immediately and to give a surface better traction.

In 2007 we had an aggressive replacement of cross pipes throughout the Township, including several on Old School Road in anticipation of the leveling and overlay project that was also completed in 2007.

As always, road conditions may dictate a change in plans.



FiOS is the latest telecommunications technology, bringing phone, internet and television services over fiber optics directly to your home.

Verizon FiOS Television Service Coming to Haycock

By now most of you know that DSL high-speed internet is available to over 90% of Haycock Township served by Verizon. For those of you who did not know, you can now order DSL the provider of your choice. If you attempt to order DSL and are told that it is not available to you, please contact me at the office and we will look into it for you. We have had an occasional problem with records not being changed automatically when the area was deployed. This is usually rectified within 24 hours and can only be fixed through our office.

In the breaking news department, we were officially informed by Verizon that the 215 area code will have FiOS deployed in 2008! Expected availability date is sometime in the 4th quarter, possibly even as soon as the 3rd quarter of 2008. This

will be a full deployment, which will give us our first choice for cable television.

Unfortunately, the 610 area code is not currently on the build schedule, but that could change at any time. As of three months ago none of Haycock was scheduled for deployment.

We wanted to take a little space to thank Dan Reavy and Craig Harrington at Verizon for their assistance; They made the process smooth and seamless. DSL would not be here without their help!

If you want to get updates on FiOS, please sign up for our monthly e-mail at newsletter@haytownship.info.

Haycock Fire Company Schedule of Events for 2008

Breakfasts are:

February 24
March 30
April 27
June 29
July 27
August 31
October 26

Basket Bingo is May 4

Bikefest is September 28

Flower Sales are:

March 21, 22 & 23
May 9, 10 & 11

Mother's Day Dinner is May 11

There are also two triathlons at Nockamixon State Park that the Fire Company provides services for as fundraisers.

Fundraisers in 2007 were quite successful, thanks to support from the community.

The Haycock Volunteer Fire Company had a busy year, running 185 emergency calls in 2007 and holding 15 fundraisers and no less than 34 drills.



Please continue to support our volunteers as they are primarily funded by fundraisers and donations.



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**Sign up for our monthly email newsletter
by emailing newsletter@haytownship.info**

**We're on the web at
www.haycocktwp.com**

Haycock Township Report Award Winning Once Again

Once again this newsletter has received a first-place award in our population category for the state of Pennsylvania.

This award is presented annually by the Pennsylvania Association of Township Supervisors to four different categories, based on the population of the Township. Two years ago our newsletter was awarded first place in the same category and second place for Most Improved Newsletter.

We are proud to have had these awards bestowed upon us and will continue to strive to win each and every year.

If you ever have any suggestions for our newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact us.



Monthly E-mail Newsletter Available Upon Request

We have also added a monthly e-mail newsletter service that you can subscribe to by visiting our website or sending an email directly to newsletter@haytownship.info.

This e-newsletter is a quick and simple way for us to get important news and events out to you in between annual newsletters. We guarantee your email address to be kept private and that the e-mails will be kept to a minimum.

We will use this tool to notify subscribers of any news of an immediate nature, such as when several houses were burglarized in the Township.

Currently there are over 275 people subscribed to this service.



Bucks County Household Hazardous Waste Program Tentative Dates Announced

While the Upper Bucks dates seem to be all but set in stone, the dates are still not official and subject to change. Please confirm the dates by visiting our website at www.haycocktwp.com, via our monthly e-mail newsletter or calling the Municipal Office. The Upper Bucks Tech School on Ridge Road in Bedminster Township will host the program on June 21, 2008 and the Quakertown Community Pool on Mill Street in Quakertown Borough will host the program on September 27, 2008. Times for all program events is 9:00am to 3:00pm rain or shine.