



# 9th Ward NEWSLETTER

*From Commissioner Bill Wechsler*

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## SUMMER 2010

Township of Haverford, Pennsylvania



### Skatium Update

The replacement of the old concrete floor has begun; as of April 12th, 2010 the contractor has started his work. The work consists of multi-stages; demolition of the old hockey boards and the removal of the Plexiglas, removal of asbestos in the mechanical room and the excavation of the two layers of the concrete floor and other sub-surface materials. The job is moving along and is scheduled for completion the first week in September. Included in the scope of work is an underground heating system, this allows the Skatium be operate year round; the new hockey boards will have new seamless glass that allows spectators an un-obstructed view of the activities on the ice. With the completion of the work the township residents and customers that use the Skatium will have a new ice surface that they can use for many years. The Skatium staff looks forward to seeing everyone at the grand Re-opening; the date will be announced in a future letter

### Software Update

The Codes Department is very excited to announce the implementation of a new software processing system for permits, licenses and record retention. This system will improve our customer service and response time, which will ultimately result in faster processing time, by allowing inspectors to issue inspection reports and permits on site of a project, and the maintenance of all documents related to a property in a single server location.

### Health Department Spring Reminder



Mosquito breeding begins in April.

After a long winter remove all standing water from your gutters, pools, flower pots, bird baths, trash cans, tires, etc. Sign-up for WNV Press Releases for all info on mosquito spraying in the township [www.westnile.state.pa.us](http://www.westnile.state.pa.us)

### Reminder

All charitable fundraisers and events selling food (e.g. Strawberry Festivals, May Days, Spaghetti Dinners, Church Fairs, etc.) need a permit from the Health Department. If your charitable organization is running such an event please call the Health Department at 610-446-1000 ext. 202 to obtain your free "Itinerant Food and Drink Permit".

### Darby/Marple Road Project To Begin

Contractors for the Haverford Reserve developers are working with PennDOT and township representatives to begin the roadway improvements at Darby and Marple Road next month. This project will include the roadway reconfiguration to a T-shaped intersection and will include the installation of a traffic signal. The ten-week long road closure is slated to begin on Wednesday, June 23, 2010, the day after school closes. Re-opening the roadways is tentatively scheduled on September 1, 2010 just before school opens.

The contractor will be mobilizing, advertising, and placing detour signs as required by the HOP in advance of the road closure.



## Haverford Township Police Department

### Operation Keep Safe

In an effort to reduce underage drinking, dangerous behavior, random acts of vandalism and disorderly behavior, Haverford Township Police Department is utilizing a state funded grant to initiate programs to reduce these community issues. This enforcement effort began early August 2009 and as a part of this funding we have instituted Operation Keep Safe. Operation Keep Safe is a multi-faceted approach utilizing education and prevention strategies to reduce underage and dangerous drinking and quality of life issues within the township.

As a part of Operation Keep Safe, the department established a program named P.L.E.A.S.E. (Problematic Location Enforcement And Site Evaluation) which uses officers specifically trained in the area of underage and dangerous drinking. The department uses roving patrols and saturation enforcement to target predetermined problem areas. The department has established a "Zero Tolerance" for township park ordinance and curfew violations, along with liquor law and drug violations. Officers are stopping any and all persons found in township parks, playgrounds and school properties after posted hours. Persons found to be in violations of ordinances and posted signs will be cited. Township Ordinance 126-2 prohibits any persons from being in Township parks, playgrounds and school properties from Dusk to 7 am. Township Ordinance 128-11 defines the curfew for individuals under the age of 18 as midnight to 5 am everyday.

This effort is being put in place as a result of numerous complaints from citizens to help reduce the amount of acts of vandalism, nuisance crimes, disorderly conduct that have been reported in these areas. We have had contact with over 100 juveniles directly and there have been 15 Alcohol/Drug related arrests. We have begun to see a decrease in park violations and observed evidence of a reduction in underage drinking in the targeted areas.

Residents with questions or concerns may contact Sergeant Michael Glenn of the Haverford Township Police Department Community Policing Unit at 610-853-1298 ext 224 or email [mglenn@haverfordpolice.org](mailto:mglenn@haverfordpolice.org)

## Paramedic Department Bee Season



The Paramedic Department wants to remind you that carrying an "Epi-Pen" – an epinephrine injection - is an absolute necessity to counter the severe reaction people allergic to bee stings may have. If you carry Epi-Pens in your first aid kit, glove box, purse or in your desk, now is the time to check expiration dates, inspect for damage, and to familiarize your family, friends, and co-workers with the location and use of this device. Have several devices on hand and readily available.

If your child has a bee sting allergy that may require emergent use of epinephrine, inform coaches and teachers of the signs and symptoms of a reaction and the location of the child's prescribed Epi-Pen.



*"Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless, but because they're priceless."*

~Sherry Anderson

It is because of you, our wonderful volunteers who gave your time, your tools, your food, your supplies, your patience and especially your sense of humor that today we have one of the most amazing playgrounds for all our children and grandchildren to play on. The Freedom Playground Committee thanks each and every volunteer who had a part in building the playground.

Picket fence posts, pavers and components are still available! Please go to our website: [www.freedomplay.org](http://www.freedomplay.org) under "Want to Help" for forms. We still need to raise \$95,000 before we can install the poured-in-place ground cover so we can open the playground. Our website will continually be updated with events, pictures, & info.

On May 15, 2010, we will be completing our punch list. Please join us at 9am at Freedom Playground with your drills and routers.

On June 12, 2010 10am-2pm join us for our second annual Touch a Truck fundraiser at the former Bubble Gum Factory at Eagle and Lawrence Roads! More details will follow.

## Tips for Managing Stormwater

- Substitute porous surfaces for impervious ones.
- Direct stormwater to areas where it can seep into the ground.
- Hold stormwater for use or release later. Plant more trees, shrubs, and mulched beds.

# YMCA Moves Forward with Haverford Township

The YMCA of Philadelphia & Vicinity is making steady progress with the new Haverford Township YMCA, most recently placing a sign at the Eagle Road site of the future state-of-the-art facility that will serve families and individuals throughout the region.

The Haverford Township YMCA will feature two swimming pools, one a 25 yard, 6-8 lane competitive lap pool, and one for recreation with zero-depth entry to accommodate enthusiasts of all ages and abilities. The new facility will also incorporate a whirlpool, steam room and sauna to enhance the member experience.

Multi-purpose rooms will accommodate community groups and programs for preschool, youth, teens and adults, including Child Watch babysitting services for members. The Health and Wellness Center will house various modern fitness equipment, and a double gym will provide space for basketball, athletic programming and be encircled by a track for walking, jogging and running.

## For Cleaner Creeks, Save Fertilizer for the Fall.

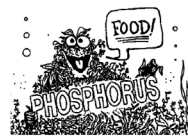
*tips for stormwater management on your property*

### DID YOU KNOW:

- Fertilizers contain nitrogen and phosphorus which wash or leach into our streams and ponds.
- Even small levels of these nutrients can overload ponds or streams, and result in undesirable weed and algae growth. Algae depletes oxygen, killing fish and limiting the diversity of what lives in our streams.

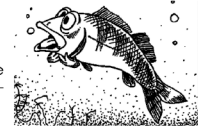
### To minimize the impact of lawn fertilization on our streams:

**1 Fertilize in the fall.**  
Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection discourages spring application of fertilizer because it creates excessive top growth of grass. DEP recommends instead that homeowners **fertilize lawns around Labor Day** and use a second application in late October if needed. Fall fertilization promotes vigorous root growth and prevents fertilizer from leaching into streams and ponds in the spring.



**2 Do a soil test and consider phosphorus-free fertilizers.**  
Phosphorus is typically the limiting nutrient in algae growth. If your phosphorus levels are already adequate, select a phosphorus-free fertilizer. If your property drains to a stream, pond, or reservoir, do not use phosphate fertilizers. Mail-in soil test kits are available from your County Extension Service.

**3 Use slow-release and organic alternatives.**  
Select fertilizers with "slow-release" forms of nitrogen which release more slowly into the soil and are less likely to leach. Choose organic rather than chemical-based fertilizers.



**4 Limit application amounts to designated levels, and recycle grass clippings.**  
Lawns typically require 2.5 - 3 pounds of nitrogen per 1,000 square feet per year. Recycling grass clippings on your lawn can meet between 25% and 50% of nitrogen needs.

**5 Avoid stream edges and stormwater conveyances.**  
Do not fertilize stormwater basins, or drainage swales leading to basins, or within 25 feet of stormwater basins or streams.

This message is brought to you by your municipality and Chester-Ridley-Crum Watersheds Association, [www.crcwatersheds.org](http://www.crcwatersheds.org). Sources: PA Department of Environmental Protection "Grasscycling: It's OK, to Let it Lay."

## Recreation News



### Summer HavaGood Times

The Haverford Township Recreation Department's Summer edition of the HavaGood Times is now available. The Times was mailed to all residents of Haverford Township in late April. A copy of the Times is available on the Recreation Department's website [www.haverfordtownship.org](http://www.haverfordtownship.org). Registration for summer programs began Monday, May 3. Some programs have already been filled please call for more information. Registration can be done at the Recreation Dept, 8:30am - 4:30pm M-F. The HavaGood Times includes information on the playground program, summer camp, sports camps, theme park tickets and much more. For information on any Recreation Department activities contact [Recinfo@haverfordtownship.org](mailto:Recinfo@haverfordtownship.org) or call 610-446-9397.

### Discount Park Tickets

Stop in the Recreation Department before you visit the theme parks this summer. The Recreation Department has discounted tickets to Camelbeach, Dorney Park, Hershey Park, Morey Piers, Six Flags and many more! Residents saved over \$20,000 last year by purchasing their tickets from us.

### Phillies Trip

Come see the Phightin' Phils take on the Atlanta Braves or the Dodgers. We have seats in the 400 level. Your price includes transportation and tickets to the

game. Date: Braves July 6th Dodgers August 10th. The bus leaves from Glendale Park at 5:30pm and returns after the game. The fee is \$39.

### Little Explorers- where we build play and explore.

This recreation preschool for ages 3-5 provides a warm and inviting atmosphere where children can be curious, active and creative. We will explore the trails, creek and wonderful play area at Merry Place. Daily activities include indoor/outdoor play, circle activities, sharing stories and songs. Choose from 2, 3 or 4 days a week. Fall Session begins 9/14. Times: 9-12:30pm with an Extended Day option from 12:30-2:30pm. Come to our Open House Thursday, August 26th at 10am at Merry Place. For a Little Explorers Brochure go to [www.haverfordtownship.com](http://www.haverfordtownship.com) or call 610-446-9397.

### Summer Playground Program

From June 28th - August 6th the Township's annual Summer Playground Program will be held at the following locations: Coopertown, Grange, Hilltop, Merwood, Paddock, Veterans, Westgate. For safety reasons, during the hours of 9:00am-2:30pm, Monday through Thursday, certain areas of the park will be restricted to those children who are registered for the Summer Playground Program. Registration is on going, but there is a limit to the number of children who can safely participate. Contact the Recreation Department for information regarding registration or the use of one of the parks listed above.

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Finance Department  
**The First Three Months  
of 2010 – At a Glance...**

In a municipal finance department, the first three months of any new fiscal year are typically consumed with the billing and collection of annual real estate taxes. Over 18,000 tax bills were calculated, printed and mailed to homes on February 1, 2010. Collections through the end of March totaled \$15.3 million dollars as the majority of property owners take advantage of the 2% discount period which ended March 31. We continue to pursue non-filers and delinquent business owners who are not properly reporting and remitting business privilege and mercantile taxes. Our efforts are proven by the success of the new audit and compliance program which recouped almost \$30,000 within the first twelve weeks of its inception.

The Township Manager, along with all of the department directors, continues to monitor expenses on a monthly basis with a goal of keeping operating costs down. While we experienced an extremely harsh winter in which our snow removal budget was completely exhausted – we are hopeful to recoup some of those monies through a FEMA application we are in the process of completing.

At its April meeting, the Board of Commissioners authorized staff to continue with a new bond issue which will in large part refinance some of our existing debt at lower interest rates – greatly reducing interest costs. We are happy to report that on April 30, 2010, the Township was granted a very favorable "AA2" rating from Moody's Investor Services citing the Township's strong tax base and low debt burden as contributing factors for the strong rating.

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## **Eagle Road Crossing**

The EPA will be installing a section of pipe across Eagle Road in front of the Gum Factory as a part of the new line connecting to the treatment plant. This project will result in lane closures over two nights, starting at 9PM and continuing through 5AM. PennDOT is requiring the crews to be completely off of the roadway by 6AM. Construction is tentatively scheduled to be during the week of June 7.

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***Congratulations and Best Wishes  
to John and Phyllis Centrella of Centrella's Deli who  
are retiring after 35 years of service to the Community.***

## **Llanerch Quarry Re-Use**

The Llanerch Quarry was the subject of discussion at several township Planning Commission meetings recently when representatives for the site presented proposed amendments to the township zoning regulations. Those amendments include reductions in the amount of off-street parking spaces needed per square feet for a shopping center from the present minimum requirements, would permit gasoline sales within the shopping center, allow a fast food restaurant to be freestanding rather than be attached to the main shopping center and various other miscellaneous other amendments. A hearing has been scheduled before the Board of Commissioners on Monday, June 7 at 6 PM at the Haverford Township Building, 2325 Darby Road, Havertown. The hearing is open to the public and you are welcome to come, hear testimony about these amendments and offer testimony to the Board.

The current construction activity at the quarry involves the restoration of the stream and sanitary sewers at the property as a result of an agreement between the quarry owner and the township following the collapse of a portion of the quarry wall about 30 years ago. That collapse caused the stream and sanitary lines to be re-routed and needed pumps to 'lift' the flows uphill, until the quarry was filled to a level where the lines could be restored to gravity-fed flows.

We expect development plans to be filed very soon and will focus on ways to properly manage the traffic associated with the new development.

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## **Y.E.S.!** **You Empowered by Savings**

CAADC's Teen Savings Program targets students, ages 14-18, interested in learning about personal money management and earning a \$100 savings match at the same time. Participants are required to attend 5 financial education classes and prove they have saved \$100 to receive the \$100 match. Students must meet income guidelines and be residents of Delaware County.

Topics covered in workshops include decision-making and prioritizing wants and needs, the importance of knowing your credit score and understanding a credit report, and setting financial goals. Sessions run throughout the summer months. Please call 610-891-3994 or 610-891-6327 to receive an application.



## A Note from the Township Manager



Dear Resident,

This past winter's snow storms presented many challenges to our municipal services, including daily trash and recycling collections, snow removal and repairs to our road ways. Unfortunately, the cost to provide snow removal and salting of our 165 miles of roads resulted in a significant negative impact to our operating budget by over \$500,000. I am happy to announce, however, that due to a recent Disaster Declaration by President Obama, Haverford Township and our neighboring communities may receive some public assistance in a form of reimbursement of the cost of the February Storms. Although we will not receive anything near the amount expended for the entire winter, I am optimistic that Haverford Township may receive up to \$150,000, which will help reduce the budget variance the storms caused.

Emergency repairs to the damaged Hathaway Lane Bridge are near completion and anticipated to be open by Memorial Day weekend. Total cost for this project is \$230,350.00.

We have also begun the installation of a new ice rink and dehumidifier at the Skatium Ice Rink. Repairs are expected to be completed by September and the cost of this project is expected to exceed 1.2 million dollars.

As we look into the future, the township plans to budget 3 million dollars for another major roadway resurfacing program. The Director of Public Works has begun to inspect and categorize the roads that potentially be completed in the spring of 2011.

I would like to remind residents that our Public Works Department has begun a new Curb Side Yard Waste collection program on *Wednesday, March 17, 2010*, and will be collected each Wednesday, until October 27, 2010. **No yard waste will be picked up on a holiday week.** *Grass clippings are not accepted in the yard waste program. Please dispose of grass clippings by either composting or with your trash disposal.*

### **Yard Waste Collection:**

- Brush, leaves, and branches. Branches and brush must not be more than four inches (4") in diameter, must be less than 3 feet long, and must be tied together. Bundle them securely with twine or rope. Do not use wire. For employee safety, cans with branches protruding above the height of the can will not be picked up.
- All yard waste must be in brown biodegradable bags or trash cans that can be easily lifted (less than 40lbs). **Plastic bags cannot be used and WILL NOT be collected.**
- Yard waste must be at your collection point by 6:30 AM.

### **Unacceptable Material:**

- Grass Clippings
- Litter/Trash/Garbage
- Kitty Litter/Pet Manure
- Plastic bags and containers excess of 40 lbs.
- Branches over 3 feet in length / Branches over 1 ½ inches in diameter.

### **Holiday Schedule:**

- No yard waste will be picked up on a holiday week.

Should any resident have questions, please feel free to drop by the municipal building and stop in to see us. We can also be reached at (610) 446-1000.

Larry Gentile  
Township Manager

## GRANGE ESTATE EVENTS

143 Myrtle Ave. 610-446-4958 thegrangeestate.org

**Thursday, June 10: "Savor the Flavor of Haverford"**  
6-9 PM for a fun night of food and drink and entertainment by "Music Magic." Cost: \$25.00 per person in advance! Bring all of your friends!

**Saturday, July 3: Independence Eve Celebration**  
Constitution Center will present the "Bill of Rights Show" with interactive state-of-the-art technology to test your constitutional knowledge. Cost: \$15; \$12 if paid before June 26.

**Saturday, July 10:**

**Honey Harvesting by Beekeeper, Bev Rorer**

9AM – 3PM in the Mansion Kitchen

See the beekeepers remove the frames from the hives, then the honey from the frames!

**Weeks of July 19, July 26, August 9:**

**Roving Nature Camp**

Three one-week nature camps - ½ day sessions for children ages 4-10. Call or email the office at grangeest@verizon.net

**Wednesday, August 7: "Magic by Poly"**

Magic show and ice cream treats for the kids and adults. Admission \$4.00 for those with phone reservations received no later than July 31.

Admission for all others is \$5.00. Call 610-446-4958

Please make all checks payable to Friends of the Grange, Inc.

### Reminder

**NO GRASS CLIPPINGS in the Wednesday Yard Waste Pickup.  
Please compost or put in with your regular trash collection.**

## Kevin Cain Make My Day 5K Run and 2.5 Walk

Chairman Rose Cain would like to thank the community and the sponsors for making the Kevin Cain Make My Day 5K Run and 2.5 Walk an overwhelming success again this year. The KC Foundation helps families dealing with cancer. If you or someone you know needs assistance, please call Rose Cain @ 610-789-1722 or Fran McGarrity @ 610-789-6220.



### July 3rd Schedule of Events

- 9:40 a.m. Contestants line up for the parade
- 10:00 a.m. Parade begins
- 10:30 a.m. Parade arrives at Hilltop Field.  
Contestants go to designated areas.
- 10:40 a.m. Presentation to Hilltop Baseball
- 10:50 a.m. Prizes awarded. Soft pretzels and water ice for all!
- 11:00 a.m. Family races and games begin.
- 11:45 a.m. Festivities end.

Please contact Tim Denny at TDenny7@msn.com if you can help with any of the activities for this patriotic community event.

There will be an organizational meeting at Bon Air Fire House on Saturday, June 26th, at 9:30 AM.

**Bill Wechsler**  
Ninth Ward Commissioner  
108 North Morgan Avenue  
Haverford, PA 19083

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