



EAST NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2005

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Letter from the Staff



I heard the school district was going to build an elementary school in East Nottingham Township. I also heard the Supervisors think this is a good idea because it will mean no new houses and schools have more open space. Where did I hear this? The other night at a little league game there were some parents talking about it. They seemed to know a lot, so I'm sure their sources are reliable.

When spring hits, the rumors fly. Schools are being built, they're going to start building the mall, they have decided to scrap the mall, 8,000 houses are going to be built in ENT, and the Martians landed in a meadow. All of the rumors swirl around and no one can find out where they started, but it does make for good conversation. However, this disinformation does cause damage. Rumors can be difficult for a great many people. We worry and stress over the rumors. Sometimes people become very angry and hostile towards our elected officials over this disinformation. There are times we even make decisions based upon unreliable information.

So, how do we know the truth? We attend meetings. ENT Supervisors have meetings on the second Monday of the month. The meetings are in the ENT building on Election Road. The Planning Commission meets regularly to talk about the new developments planned for our community. The township also holds hearings about any ordinances being considered. The School Board has regular meetings twice a month at the Administration Building on Bell Tower Lane. Call the office at 610-932-6600 to find the meeting times. Can't attend a meeting? Watch the School Board meeting on Channel 68. The board meetings are broadcasted several times a week. Attend the meetings. Get involved in the community by volunteering for some of the committees. Call your representatives, School Board members and Supervisors. Ask questions of the people who know what is happening. Knowing the truth may not be as interesting as a rumor, but it is better for everyone in the community.

Getting to Know Your Local Government



East Nottingham Township has a Township Manager! His name is Gene Boneker. Gene has always been interested in government. His undergraduate degree might say social science, but it was government that Gene studied. He has also pursued additional studies in government throughout his career. Gene, a resident of Landenberg, has held governmental positions in both Delaware and New York.

Since Gene is our first Township Manager, his job description is always evolving. His major job is to oversee the day to day running of ENT. This does not include the road crew, which Gene was quick to tell me, but it does include following up with any of the on-going ENT projects, such as the light at Waterway Road and Old Baltimore Pike. He also represents the Supervisors at meetings that may involve new local, state or federal regulations. The jobs that need to be done during the business day are Gene's jobs.



In addition to the day to day running of ENT, Gene is to pursue grant money. The state and federal governments often offer monies to townships for conservation, transportation or open space initiatives. Gene's job is to find the grants and write the proposal which could save money for the taxpayers of ENT.

A Township Manager also acts as a liaison between the community, the many committees and commissions, and the Supervisors. He gathers and organizes the information that comes from all of the above sources and keeps the Supervisors informed. He also advises them on the writing of ordinances and policies. Gene does not decide policy, but makes sure that the policies which the Supervisors pass are enforced.

As of this date, Gene has not heard very much from the community. He hopes when problems arise in the community, he will be able to help.

Welcome to ENT Gene Boneker!



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

Proposed Subdivisions & Land Developments

956 New Houses and Counting!



Since the last newsletter, two preliminary subdivision plans and one sketch plan have been presented to the Planning Commission.

1. Jean Lawrie-Parker Subdivision:

4-lot subdivision on Waterway and Fifth Streets. Drip irrigation is the proposed choice of sewage.

2. Hickory Hill – Phase II: 149-lot subdivision on Wilson Mill Road.

Townhouses are being proposed.

3. Meadowview Estates – Phase II: A second preliminary plan has been submitted for a 21-lot (1 acre each) subdivision on Hopewell Road next to the Route 1 Bypass. The original plan was for a 47-lot cluster development. This new plan has been submitted in the event that the Oxford Area Sewer Authority does not have its lines extended that far in time for the original 47-lot plan.

These give us a grand total of between 1083 and 1109 future houses waiting to be built. How about them apples!

Open Space Update



The committee has been seeking the advice of experienced, professional organizations such as the Brandywine Conservancy and Natural Lands Trust in order to establish a well conceived, sustainable program for the township. Additionally, the Committee has elected to utilize the counsel of Boening and Scattergood Inc., to employ the best financial instruments for the purchase of land development rights in the township.

The Committee held an initial public meeting on May 19, 2005, to kickoff this effort. John Goodall of the Brandywine Conservancy, Jack Stefferud of the Natural Lands Trust, and Ed Murray met with the Committee to discuss various implementation issues. Committee subteams have been formed and will be spending the next several weeks developing recommendations for how to best implement the new Open Space Program.

Apply Now To Preserve Farm Land For Our Future

Applications are now being accepted by The Chester County Agricultural Land Preservation Board from farmers seeking to sell a conservation easement on their land. Agricultural conservation easements, also known as development rights, once in place restrict the land to farm use only and may not be used for any other purpose now or in the future even in the event the land is sold.

There are two programs that provide money for agricultural conservation easements on farms that qualify. These are the Chester County and/or Pennsylvania Commonwealth Agricultural Easement Purchase Program and the Chester County Challenge Grant Program. Conservation easements through these programs are open to landowners whose farms are located in Agricultural Security Areas.

The deadline for applications for both programs is September 1. More information can be obtained from the Chester County Agricultural Land Preservation Office at 610-344-6285 or the East Nottingham Township offices at 610-932-8494.

Community Star



Rather than highlighting an ENT resident, we have chosen a place as our Community Star. This “place” just had its 287th anniversary, and nearly 7,000 people call it home. The Community Star for the 2005 summer issue of the newsletter is East Nottingham Township! Thanks to the hard work of the East Nottingham Historic Commission, led by Ralph Denlinger, May 27, 1718 was recently adopted as our official date of establishment.

Investigation of the County records in West Chester by the Historic Commission uncovered the recording of a May 27, 1718 Quarter Session where the constable of “Nottingham” was to be replaced by Samuel Littler for East and Hugh Sidwell for West. Apparently, a request was made for separate constables and recognition of the townships of East and West Nottingham as two different townships.

Any readers with information or historical facts regarding our township please contact the newsletter staff via e-mail or phone. We’ll make sure the Historic Commission is made aware, and perhaps print it in one of the upcoming newsletters. Oral histories passed from generation to generation are especially appreciated.

The sign in front of the township building now has “Est. 1718” on it. Take a look when you drive by the township building one day.

The spotlight is on East Nottingham Township but needs to be shared with Ralph Denlinger and the members of the Historic Commission! Is it too soon to start planning our tri-centennial anniversary?

Oxford Area Sewer Authority

Read any local newspaper and you will see the hot topic is waste disposal. Why all the interest? The rapid growth of our area has created a major problem – sewage!

Fortunately for us, we have a group of hard working individuals dedicated to solving our waste disposal dilemma. The Oxford Area Sewer Authority is a unit of local government committed to handling the wastewater needs of its members in a cost effective, environmentally sensitive manner. The Authority is governed by the Commonwealth's Municipality Authorities Act and was established to acquire, construct, improve, maintain and operate community sewage facilities.

The member municipalities are Oxford Borough, Lower Oxford Township, West Nottingham Township and East Nottingham Township. Each municipality appoints two representatives for a five year term. The representatives are appointed by the Townships' Supervisors. The representatives from East Nottingham are Percy Reynolds and Joe Scheese.

Three committees are managing the Authority's current projects. The first is working on Act 537, which is planning for the expansion of current sewage facilities. The second committee is Operations Management and the third is the Bond Committee. Further information can be gathered by attending the meetings, which are every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the township building. All residents are welcome!

Oxford Fire Company Plans Substation



The Union Fire Company No. 1 of Oxford is finalizing plans to establish a substation in the Nottingham area. The initial trial period of six months will determine the benefits and feasibility of establishing a permanent facility.

The Union Fire Company, including the Ambulance Division, currently operates out of a single station located at 315 Market Street in Oxford Borough. It covers 93 square miles, and its first run response district includes Oxford Borough, East Nottingham, West Nottingham, Elk, Lower Oxford and part of Upper Oxford Townships (ambulance coverage also includes all of Upper Oxford as well as parts of Colerain Twp.). All fire, ambulance and rescue units are currently housed at and respond from this station. Last year members responded to a total of 642 fire and rescue calls with totally volunteer crews and 1654 emergency medical calls with a combination of paid and volunteer crews.

This substation will better serve the residents of the Southern Chester County area. The primary objective is to reduce the response time for emergency equipment to reach the scenes of fire, rescue and medical emergencies. The Nottingham area was selected based on factors such as travel time, history of run responses and projected growth.

Initially, an existing building on Pond's Edge Drive, to the rear of Wawa, will be rented. One engine will be housed there starting in July. Due to the recent purchase of a new engine, an existing engine can be relocated to the new substation without equipment reduction at the Market Street station. The needs of other areas will be monitored, with the establishment of additional substations in the future a real possibility.

As our community grows, so do the requirements of the fire company. There is always a need for more volunteers in every aspect of emergency assistance. For additional information, visit their website at www.oxfordfire.com or call and leave a message at (610) 932-2411.

Rural Living



Now that the nice weather is here, it's a good time to clean up that unsightly trash that is lying around the boundaries of our homes. Our

community's landscape is so beautiful. When we see all the bottles and cans, fast food containers and other garbage along side of the roads, we can't help but to think why, how and who does this?

Why are the streets a public trashcan? Maybe it is convenient. **How** do people not know that this is wrong? Parents, let's teach our kids and set good examples. Include trash pick up as part of their allowance. **Who** are these people? We suspect mostly teenagers when we see beer cans and bottles? Perhaps they are getting rid of the evidence before going home. So parents, if we see cans around where we live, consider that our children and their friends may be participating. However, it is not only the young that litter, it is all ages.

In the future, a clean-up day that would be safe and fun with opportunities to win prizes would be a nice community event. In the mean time, keeping a small trash bag in the car would be helpful so the trash goes into the bag instead of the street.



A list of farms that have produce, flowers and baked goods for sale is being constructed. If you would like your farm listed, please call or write the township.

Here are a few local Amish farms:

- Briar Hollow Farm Market
476 Little Elk Creek Road, Lincoln University
- Toot Valley Farm Market
204 Crawl Toot Road, Lincoln University
- Windy Acres, a local farm, takes produce and baked goods to the West Grove Farmers Market at Harmony Park

Permit Fees

This the time of year to build. Permits are required for a number of things. Below is a list of some items that require permits from the township:

- Above-ground swimming pool
- Detached garage
- Shed
- Attached garage
- In-ground swimming pool
- Pole barn
- Deck
- Additions

Call the township zoning officer for information about obtaining a permit and permit fees.

Ordinances

Along with the growth of East Nottingham Township has come the necessity for new ordinances. Following is a list of those ordinances in various stages of planning:

- Water
- Open Burning
- Noise
- Riparian

These ordinances are discussed at the Board of Supervisors meetings, the Planning Commission meetings and the Joint Work Session meetings (held on the third Monday of the month at 7pm). There will also be open hearings for the public to voice

concerns and issues before a vote is taken. Now is the time to get involved and voice your opinion. For more information call the township zoning officer.

Primary Election Results



The ENT offices and the winning party candidates resulting from the municipal primary election are:

ENT Supervisor	Samuel A. Goodley Jr. (Dem) Leo M. Levandowski (Rep)
ENT Tax Collector	Deb Thomson
Oxford Area SD School Board Reg III	Richard Nelson (Dem/Rep)

The general election is November 8. The last day to register is October 11. Even if you cannot attend township meetings, voting provides the perfect opportunity to make your opinion count. Local elections probably affect your daily lives more than a presidential election, so please take the time to vote!

Watch for the fall newsletter for more information on this election and its candidates.

Summer 2005

East Nottingham Township Newsletter

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2005 Meeting Dates
Supervisors
 Monday, July 11
 Monday, August 8
 Monday, August 11
 Monday, Sept. 12
 Monday, Sept. 26
 Monday, Oct. 24
 Monday, Nov. 28
 Monday, Dec. 12
Planning Commission
 Monday, July 25