

New Garden Township
established 1700



New Garden Meeting House - 1743

Board of Supervisors

- Jim Neal, Chair
- Stephen E. Allaband, Vice-Chair
- Gerald W. Davis
- Robert J. Perrotti
- Robert N. Taylor

Township Manager

Carmen Raddi

Secretary/Treasurer

Joan F. Kelleher



Landenberg Bridge - 1899

Township Office

299 Starr Road
Landenberg, PA 19350

Hours: 10:00 am-4:30 pm, M-F
Phone: 610-268-2915
Fax: 610-268-0458

Internet

Email:
supervisors@newgarden.org
office@newgarden.org
Township Website:
www.newgarden.org
Historical Commission Website:
www.ccil.org/~nghc

Message from the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

by Jim Neal

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors this year. How much I have learned, how many challenges, how many rewards! However, despite difficult decisions, the entire board is united as one in doing what seems best for the Township, now and in the future. I wish to express appreciation to our senior Board member, Bob Taylor who is retiring this year after 44 years of service; his knowledge and expertise will be sorely missed.

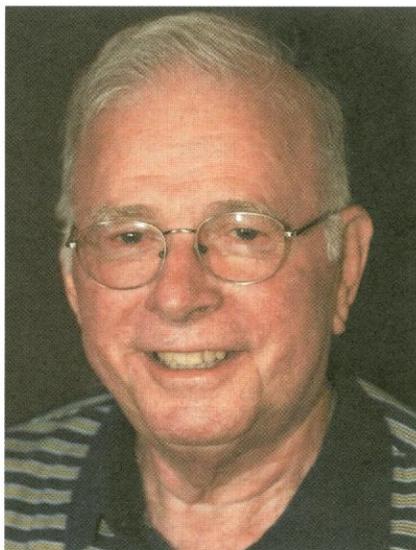
I also wish to express appreciation to our fine township staff. The police force is our largest department; police officers put in long hours to make our Township safe and to help those in need. If you happen to see an officer, wave and say, "Thank-you."

The road crew works hard to maintain the township roads, to keep tree limbs cleared, and in winter, to salt and plow snowy roadways. As you drive by workmen on the roads, be mindful of their safety, but also take a moment to wave in

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**Bob Taylor Retires
from Board of Supervisors**

by Peg Jones



Retiring Supervisor Bob Taylor
(photo by Socolow Photography)

Bob Taylor, a Supervisor in New Garden Township for 44 years, is retiring. In a recent interview he reminisced about those years, the challenges and successes, the long hours and the satisfaction he feels as he leaves office.

When Bob Taylor was a young man, his neighbor, John Neill, encouraged him to attend meetings of the Road Supervisors as they were then called. This was in 1958. For the next four years, Bob went to monthly Township meetings in the old Lyceum House at the corner of New Garden Road and Route 41. In 1962, he was elected to the Board and began his career in local politics. At this time the only responsibility of the Supervisors was to

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Bob Taylor Retires From Board of Supervisors

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maintain the roads, nearly half of which were either dirt or gravel. Bob and his fellow supervisors, Dino Ruggeri and Ben Reynolds, saw as their challenge hard topping the Townships' roads, or as Bob likes to say, "Taking the farmers out of the mud," for New Garden was a rural township.

For Bob, the life of a local politician was natural; both his parents, dairy farmers in Pennsbury Township, had served as Republican Committee people. Although Bob did not farm, he first grew mushrooms with his father-in-law, Ralph Emerson, and then from 1966 until his retirement in 1995, served as County Sealer of Weights and Measures. During these years, however, New Garden Township was his "farm." Just as a careful farmer adds to his land, improves his buildings and maintains his equipment, Bob sought to care for the Township. With his genial smile and avowed love of people, he tried to act in what he thought was the best interest of the Township. He admitted that often the easiest way to get things done was to make decisions and to act by himself. He saw himself as a problem solver who could make decisions on the spot.

Other persons who also served on the Board of Supervisors during the years Bob was either the chair or vice-chair included: Chip Smedley, Pat Keeney, Norman Nunn and Frank Zagorski. The latter two beginning their terms in 1999 when the Township voted to increase the number of supervisors from three to five. Bob's observation was that this change made gaining agreement much more difficult; he saw the "old days" of a 3-man board as an easier, simpler time.

Many changes occurred in the 1960's. With raw sewage flowing down Newark Road in front of the Tuffies' Club, the first of several sewer projects was begun; this included the creation of a Sewer Authority. Street lights, too, were added in Toughkenamon. In 1968, the local landfill was closed and Recycling and Clean-up Days instituted. Shortly thereafter, the Supervisors purchased Lou Toto's office and scales, gaining office space and adding the income from weighing trucks to the Township coffers. In 1969, they purchased the mainte-

nance building where they could then house their trucks, snowplows and offer space for one Avondale fire engine. Gradually over time the various parcels of land which once constituted the historic Thomas Lamborn farm were reassembled, added to and became land for a park as well as home to all the Township services, road maintenance, police and administration.

Bob Taylor's 44 years of service on the Board of Supervisors parallel the change and growth in New Garden Township. When the Hewlett-Packard facility was built in the late 1960's, its many employees brought a demand for more housing. Although Pineleigh had been built in the 1950's, the

building of Landenberg Manor in the Spring of 1970, launched 35 years of residential development which has not abated. Bob said the Supervisors "learned the hard way, by making mistakes." Suddenly they had to watch the building codes, learn about storm water management and deal with developers. He said, "We grew on the job!"

As the roads in the new developments were dedicated to the Township, the miles of roads the Supervisors maintained increased from about

30 to nearly 70. The police department grew from one officer to ten, the Township built a public park in 1997, and in 2004, a new administration building. To oversee all of this, in 2002, a full time Township manager was employed. With New Garden's population growing from 3000 to 12,000 persons in the last decade, demand for services continues to increase. Zoning ordinances, building ordinances, preservation ordinances all need to be considered; supervisors' meeting time has grown from the one meeting a month in 1962 to multiple meetings. And still the roads must be maintained!

When asked for a lasting memory, Bob recounted his fearful first helicopter ride. It was in 1982, when he accompanied President Reagan on a return trip to the Philadelphia airport after a visit to the Wilkinson farms.

In looking back on his tenure of 44 years, Bob said he filled a void of leadership. He likes to think he built a firm foundation of both infrastructure and services. Leaving his seat on the Board of Supervisors with no regrets; Bob Taylor believes the Township is in good hands.



A young Bob Taylor (front left) poses with new gasoline calibrating equipment with County Commissioner Ted Rubino and two State inspectors.

Message from the Chair

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thanks. They do a great job!

Seven days a week, the small sewer department monitors pumps, spray fields and treatment plants, making certain of proper operation and complying with D.E.P., State and Federal regulations. I am grateful to them for a job well done as they oversee the processing of waste water.

My appreciation also goes to Carmen Raddi, our Township Manager. Carmen appears at times to be the maestro of a well rehearsed orchestra; everything is always being taken care of or in the process of being resolved. His office staff, which includes Aleida Diaz, administrative assistant; Joan Kelleher, secretary treasurer; as well as code enforcer Don Suckstorf; and secretary Joanne Hafner provides strong support. However, it is to Joan Kelleher to whom I must give the most credit for my enjoyable year as chairman of the Board.

Road Department

by Joe Yakscoe, Road Master

The Road Department consists of the Road Master, Joe Yakscoe and three other employees: Andy DiFillipo, Jeff Stewart and Dennis Byrd, headquartered in the Township Maintenance Center. These four persons have myriad responsibilities: they maintain over 80 miles of Township roads including those in residential developments and maintain and inspect all Township tagged vehicles: police cars, sewer cars, trucks, etc.

The Park complex is also the responsibility of this Department, everything from mowing to minor repairs. In this regard, the Department appreciates calls from residents with alerts to problems.

With winter approaching, residents need to prepare their road sides for possible snow removal. Residents should prune overhanging tree limbs and bushes which may block sight lines and affect snow clearance as well remove roadside plants and flowers which may trap water on the asphalt causing potential icy roadways.

When snow begins to fall, residents need to remove all vehicles from the township roadway. If residents fail to do this, these parked vehicles can cause accidents as salt trucks and plows try to maneuver around them. Another caution: when plowing snow in driveways, do not plow the snow onto township roads, thereby creating piles of snow. If these piles freeze they become a traffic hazard.

The Road Master welcomes calls from residents with information and observations. It is everyone's responsibility to keep New Garden Township a safe and pleasant place to live.

Landenberg Bridge Update

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will be quite proud of.

The only bad news was the schedule. It was reported that actual construction cannot possibly start before 2007, and may even slide out from that. Sandra Detterline, the township's engineering consultant, informs us that this is not unusual with PennDOT projects these days due to PennDOT's poor funding situation.

From the Sewer Department

by William (Radar) O'Connell

The wastewater department of the Township, more commonly called the sewer department, can offer residents some suggestions.

1. What to do if your sewer backs up: First, contact your plumber who can determine if the back up is in the house or in your lateral. It is your responsibility for the service line from the main to the house. If the stoppage is not in your line, call the Township crew which will promptly respond.

2. How to conserve water and lower your sewer bill:

- Run the dishwasher or clothes washer only when they have full loads.
- If you wash dishes by hand, use one basin for washing, one basin for rinsing.
- Sweep driveways and sidewalks with a broom, rather than hosing them with water.
- Repair dripping faucets and leaky toilets (these can waste as much as 200 gallons per day).

If you would like to see the treatment facilities, please contact us. The Township has more than 25 miles of sewer mains with 11 pumping stations. These sites are checked daily to insure their safe operation.

If you need to reach the sewer department, call the Township office; the number of the treatment plant is 610-925-0718.

If you dig on your property, for your safety, first please call PA One Call System at 1-800-242-1776. You can obtain a map of all your underground services.

Old Photographs: The New Garden Historical Commission would like to copy your old pictures of life in New Garden Township including photos of houses, barns and industry. If you have pictures you would be willing to share, please contact Peg Jones at Marg251@aol.com or 610-268-2363.

New Pollution Regulations: High Flow TMDLs

by Scott Gantt

What is a TMDL? TMDL stands for Total Maximum Daily Load. The TMDL represents the maximum amount of pollutant allowed to enter a body of water. The Pollutants considered for the creeks of New Garden are bacteria, sediment and nutrients. The new rules and regulations are part of Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and state that water bodies not meeting the water quality standards are considered to be impaired. Almost all of the creeks in southern Chester County are considered impaired and do not meet the water quality standards.

What does TMDL propose? The TMDL proposes pollution reduction from wastewater treatment plants, municipal stormwater runoff and runoff from agricultural lands, urban areas and residential lands. These reductions are proposed in order to make a difference in the surface waters of our area.

Public Participation The Clean Water Act provides for any individual or organization impacted by TMDLs to participate in the procedures for improvement. The public can contribute useful information about an impaired body of water and offer insight which can make pollution reduction successful.

Landenberg Bridge Update

by David Hawk

PennDOT held a meeting to discuss its plans for the rehabilitation of the Landenberg Bridge on June 20th at the New Garden Township building. Along with township officials and representatives of the New Garden Historic Commission, the meeting was attended by representatives from interested federal, state and county agencies. Craig Suhoskey, the new PennDOT project director, was introduced.

Engineer Mike Cuddy of Lichtenstein, PennDOT's engineering consultants, presented the latest plans for the project. Township attendees were pleased to note that the latest plans now incorporate all items that were requested several years ago in previous meetings with PennDOT. The bridge will be rehabilitated by placing steel girders underneath the current bridge to give it a load capacity sufficient to handle school buses and emergency vehicles. The trusses will be slightly further apart (four feet) than at present because the road width has been increased from nineteen to twenty feet and guard rails have been added to protect the trusses. The bridge is being raised slightly (six inches on the store side and eighteen inches on the hill side) to ensure that the massive new girders do not make area flooding any worse. In addition, the historic stonework will be rebuilt using formliners. The project, when completed, is expected to be something the community

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Residential Building Permits-How, when and why?

by zoning officer, Don Suckstorf

In June of 2004, New Garden Township elected to administer and enforce the PA Uniform Construction Code. The PA codes are published by the International Code Council and nationally recognized. Pennsylvania municipalities who have opted to enforce this code use these minimum standards as amended by the PA Legislature.

When you apply for a permit you are requested to supply information regarding your project. Some projects require more information than others depending on the size and type of project. To make your application process as easy and stress free as possible, we have put together several specific permit packages.

Upon receiving your completed permit application, the New Garden Township Zoning Officer reviews it for zoning compliance. Once zoning compliance is determined your permit application and construction documents are reviewed for code compliance by Building Inspection Underwriters, an independent inspection agency contracted by the Township to assist with plan reviews and inspections.

When your plans have been determined to be in compliance with the construction codes, you will be notified of your approval. The permit fee will be calculated at that time. This entire process usually takes from two days to two weeks depending on the project and the amount of construction taking place in the Township.

Depending upon your particular project, during the course of construction there may be several inspections to ensure compliance with the approved plans and minimum construction standards. It is your responsibility to schedule these inspections with the Township. Upon completion and approval of your project, a certificate of occupancy is issued by the Township.

Projects which do not require a building permit: structures less than 199 square feet in area, residential detached accessory storage sheds, repairs or maintenance to buildings which do not include cutting away of structural beams or load bearing supports, alteration, replacement or relocation of any water supply piping, sewer, drain leaders, gas, soil, waste, vent or similar piping, electrical wiring or mechanical work effecting general safety.

In general building permits are required for: new dwellings, additions, decks, finishing of basements, porches supporting a roof, swimming pools more than 24 inches deep and pool barriers, hot tubs and spas, retaining walls greater than 4 feet in height, replacement of 25% or more of roof coverings, alterations involving the addition to or relocating of means of egress, electrical wiring, plumbing piping, gas piping and mechanical equipment, new and replacement h.v.a.c. equipment.

If you are hiring a contractor to do your project, the contractor is required to be registered with the Township. Contractor registration ensures you that the contractor has the minimum insurance coverage as required by the Township. Contractors must be registered prior to the start of construction. Please ask to see this registration or you may check with the Codes Department.

If you are sure if your project requires a permit, you may contact the Codes Department at 610-268-2915, ext. 103.

Park and Recreation

by Teresa Zunino

Thanks to all who participated in our first season of Summer Camps! New Garden Township hosted 11 camps at the Park; approximately 140 children participated in special interest camps ranging from All Sports to Mad Science to Art. The Open House to learn about and sign up for next summer's (2006) camps will be held on the morning of March 4th from 9 to 12.

We have a new building! Those of you who attended camps were introduced to our new Parks and Recreation building in the middle of the Park. The historic Lamborn House has a new use; it is to be the center for our camps and other activities.

UP COMING FALL EVENTS

Sunday, October 30th—Halloween Hunt in the Park:

Dress up the kids and bring them out to hunt for Halloween trinkets. Participate in the parade and receive pictures and a treat bag!

November 8th—Votes and Coats! When you go to cast your vote on Election Day, take your gently used coats for donation to Mission Santa Maria in Avondale. Also, the annual food drive will be held at this time. (Coats and food accepted from October 31 thru November 4 at the Township Building each day from 10-4.)

Saturday December 3rd — Tree Lighting and Holiday

Gathering: Join your neighbors and friends to kick off the season with our tree lighting. Visit Santa, create kids crafts, join the carolers, and of course, ...cookies and cocoa. Township building at 5:30

December 2-9—Annual Holiday Gift Drive: Those people who patronize Mission Santa Maria are grateful for the toys we collect for their children. Drop toys off at the Township Building during this week and feel good knowing your helping others in need. The Township Building is open each day 10-4.

March 4, 2006 —Summer Camp Open House: Meet camp providers, get information, and sign up for Summer Camp. Registration at the Township Building between 9 and 12. Questions? call Teresa at 610-636-2158

Sewage - to assure proper maintenance, Township Ordinance #103 requires all property owners to pump out their on-lot systems at least once every 3 years. Proof of doing this must be submitted to the township secretary.

Construction and Demolition Permits - You must have a permit if you wish to build or demolish a structure. BOCA Code for 1990 is in effect. Applications are available at the Township Building. Building Inspector Ed Grinder (800-732-2551) is available every Wednesday afternoon to provide assistance.

Reminders from Police Chief Larry Dampman

Back to School: Now that school has resumed, students will be waiting for busses along our streets and roads. Our primary concern is for student safety. All drivers should exercise caution and be aware of stopped school buses loading and unloading students.

School Bus Laws: The violation for passing a stopped school bus while loading and unloading students is a fine of \$250, plus a \$50 surcharge, plus costs and an automatic suspension of an operator's license upon conviction.

Deer Crossing: During the fall and winter, deer become more active. Because the number of vehicle/deer incidents increase during rutting season, please exercise caution.

Deer Hunting: Hunting season begins in late November and runs through December. Residents are reminded that it is unlawful to hunt within 150 yards of any occupied building (150 yards is the length of 1½ football fields). All hunters are required to abide by PA hunting regulations.

Township Park: Our park is family friendly, therefore all alcoholic beverages are prohibited. We have experienced some vandalism in the park. The police will arrest and prosecute anyone found vandalizing property in the park or with the possession of alcohol in the park.

Emergency Operations Center: The New Garden Police Department coordinates with Chester County Government Emergency Services Department and other local emergency personnel to respond in case of any type of disaster. Personnel are trained and certified as emergency responders and will come from various locations throughout the County.

Township Meetings - are usually held at the township building and are open to the public. Citizens are encouraged to attend and participate - call the township office for more information.

Board of Supervisors:

first & second Mondays at 7:30 pm,

workshop: first Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

Planning Commission:

fourth Wednesday at 7:30 pm,

workshop: second Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Sewer Authority:

second Tuesday at 7:30 pm.

Historical Commission:

first Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

Park & Recreation Committee:

third Wednesday at 7:30 pm.

New Garden General Authority:

third Monday at 9:00 am (as required).

Zoning Hearing Board:

as announced.

New Garden Growers' Market
by Carin Bonifacino

New Garden Growers' Market had a very successful first year. Shoppers were happy to be able to purchase farm fresh products each Saturday in front of the Maintenance Building. And it was satisfying for vendors to hear customers say they don't know what they will do without the market when the season is over. People seemed to enjoy buying fresh eggs, cheese, bread, etc. in the friendly atmosphere of a real farmers' market.

A wide array of products were provided by vendors from Coatesville to Middletown, DE. Among the more popular items were: asparagus, strawberries and rhubarb in the Spring, and sweet corn, tomatoes, berries and peaches mid-summer. Vendors also included two local cut flower growers, a beekeeper from West Grove with honey and a sheep's milk cheese maker. Three different bakers brought breads, pastries, cookies and muffins.



New Garden Growers' Market will be back in the Spring of 2006. Look for the canopies in front of the Maintenance Building beginning at the end of May. Many of this season's vendors will be returning; anyone else with an interest in becoming a vendor should call Carin at (610)268-2150 or e-mail: summersun33@juno.com.

Important Dates:

November 8th—Election Day
Reminder: the old southern precinct has been divided in two. Affected voters should have recently received a mailing from County Voter Services informing them of their new polling location.

November 10th—New Garden History Night
7:30 at the Township Building
• Presentation of annual Preservation Award
• New Garden Area Abolitionists and the Underground Railroad
Mary L. Dugan
• Tales of old New Garden
Margaret B. Jones

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New Garden Township
299 Starr Road
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