NOTTINGHAM TOWNSHIP NEWS
909 Sugar Run Road • Eighty Four, PA 15330
724-348-5622
Spring 2014

Roadside Clean-Up Day, Saturday, April 5th!

The Nottingham Township Recreation Board would like to invite you to participate in a clean-up day to be held April 5, 2014 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Clean-up will take place along some of the roads in the Township littered with trash and in need of care. Volunteers are asked to meet at the Municipal Complex, 909 Sugar Run Road, by 8:30 a.m. for coffee and donuts. We'll leave the Township building at 9 a.m. to clean-up and return at noon for a pizza party. For more information contact the Township Office at 724-348-5622. We would love to have you join us!

Nottingham Township Car Show

When: Saturday, June 21, 2014 (Rain or Shine)

Time: 10:00 a.m. thru 2:00 p.m.

Where: Municipal Complex, 909 Sugar Run Road

Donations will be requested for admission and donated to the Washington Area Humane Society. All cars, trucks, and motorcycles welcome. D.J., Mike Grenci, will be on hand to liven things up! **Trophies • Prizes • Raffle • Food**

Mark your Calendars

Saturday, September 27th - a **Bonfire Event** will be held at Sherwood Park located at the Municipal Complex from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Live Entertainment will be provided. A 50/50 Raffle will be held to benefit the Finleyville Food Bank. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets. Free food and drinks. Be sure to bring family and friends to this popular Township event!

Saturday, October 25th, 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. Haunted Halloween Trail
Bring your children to this free event to receive Halloween treats from the Nottingham Township ghosts & goblins. Hope to see you there!

Recreation Board makes donation to the Finleyville Food Pantry

On Saturday, October 12, 2013, members of the Township Recreation Board met with Ronald Monich from the Finleyville Food Pantry to present a check for $307 raised from the 50/50 raffle held during the annual Bonfire that took place September 21, 2013. (Pictured l-r are Dave Resanovich, Edward Nemec, Ron Monich (Finleyville Food Pantry), Mary Jubic and Bill Fogle).

Inside This Issue

Roadside Clean-up Day, April 5, 2014 . . . . . Cover
Nottingham Township Car Show . . . . . Cover
Mark your Calendars . . . . . Cover
Bonfire and Haunted Halloween Trail . . . . . Cover
Recreation Board makes donation to Finleyville Food Pantry . . . . . Cover
Meet your Tax Collector 2
FEMA Update 2
ATTENTION - "School Bus Stop Ahead" 2
Recycling Reminder 2
Message from the Chairman 3
Primary Election Day 3
History around the Township 4

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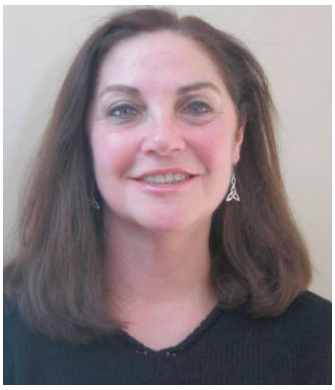
Meet Your Tax Collector



Welcome Kathy!

We would like to take this opportunity to introduce the new Real Estate and School Tax Collector for Nottingham Township. Kathleen Imhoff was elected to the position of Real Estate Tax Collector in the November 2013 election. Kathy will be replacing long-time Tax Collector Linda Mahoney, who held that position for over 3-terms.

Kathy and her family live in the Evanston Heights Subdivision located behind Buck Drake Nursery off Venetia Road. The Imhoff family has lived in Nottingham Township for over 14-years. Kathy and her husband David have two teenage sons, Bryce and Gabe.

Our new Tax Collector has a degree in Environmental Science from Slippery Rock University, and was an operations manager for government regulated water treatment facilities and has done extensive data recording and reporting for an international logistics company.

Kathy is excited to start her new position as the Nottingham Township Tax Collector, and looks forward to working with all of you. Kathy's office will be located in her home at 58 Blair Road, Eighty Four. Please call ahead for hours of operation as they vary throughout the year.

Kathleen Imhoff, Tax Collector
58 Blair Road, Eighty Four, PA (Behind Buck Drake Nursery off Venetia Road)
Call for hours • 724-260-0886

Thank you Linda!
A special "thank you" to Linda Mahoney for her years of dedicated service as the Nottingham Township Tax Collector. We wish you and your family all the best. We will miss you Linda!

FEMA UPDATE

In 2010, FEMA updated the Flood Insurance Rate Maps. Those of you in Nottingham Township known to be in a flood plain were notified by letter from the Township at that time. However, before those maps were enacted, FEMA received additional funds, which allowed FEMA to expand the study area to include additional streams. The expanded study maps were completed in 2013, and the appeals period to dispute the changes for the flood plains have begun again. Nottingham Township maps have NOT changed in the expanded study. If you have any questions about your property, please contact FEMA's general information number at 1-800-427-4661 or visit the National Flood Insurance Program's website at www.floodsmart.gov.

Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMs) can be viewed at the Nottingham Township Building during regular business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

ATTENTION

Please be mindful of all "School Bus Stop" signs and children heading to bus stops throughout the Township and its neighborhoods. Follow all speed limit signs and do your part and help keep our children safe!

RECYCLING REMINDER

The Township would like to ask for your assistance with items NOT to be recycled. Recently, food items have been found in the recycling compactor. We need everyone's cooperation to be sure that only recyclables go into our compactor. Some of the items NOT to be recycled are food waste products, styrofoam, styrofoam peanuts, PVC pipe and plastic bags. If in doubt leave it out!

A Message from the Chairman

By Peter V. Marcoline, Jr. Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Re-adoption of the Oil and Gas Ordinance - originally adopted in 2010

On September 7, 2010 the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance 91, which was a comprehensive Ordinance providing for the regulation of oil and gas development in Nottingham Township. Ordinance 91 restricted oil and gas development to specific zoning districts, provided for the control of noise emanating from drilling operations and placed other requirements on oil and gas drillers to minimize the negative effect of drilling on Township residents. Ordinance 91 also provided for construction of natural gas compressor stations and natural gas processing facilities as conditional uses solely in the A-1 Zoning District.

Unfortunately and subsequent to the adoption of Ordinance 91, the Pennsylvania legislature passed Act 13 of 2012, which essentially superseded many of the provisions the Board provided in Ordinance 91. Act 13 also had the effect of superseding and "gutting" many of the oil and gas regulation Ordinances adopted by numerous townships in Washington County, Pennsylvania, as well as other counties within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

As a result of Act 13, and the fact that many of the provisions of Ordinance 91 were superseded by that Act, Nottingham Township adopted Ordinance 100 on August 6, 2012 to replace Ordinance 91. Ordinance 100 primarily concerned regulation of natural gas compressor stations and natural gas processing plants.

A coalition of Townships affected negatively by Act 13 challenged the Act in the Pennsylvania Courts. Eventually the case reached the Pennsylvania Supreme Court. On December 19, 2013, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court ruled as unconstitutional numerous provisions of Act 13, including those that significantly restricted municipalities to regulate oil and gas operations. A request to reconsider the decision was recently rejected by the Pennsylvania Supreme Court.

As a result of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's decision, the Board of Supervisors decided there was a need to repeal Ordinance 100 and readopt Ordinance 91, (which will be given an new ordinance number), to put back in place its comprehensive regulation of oil and gas drilling with some changes. One (1) of the changes addressed was a distance requirement of 1000' from any dwelling, etc. from the drilling site. The proposed Ordinance can be viewed on the Township website at www.nottinghamtwp.com.

The Changing Landscape of Nottingham Township

Prior to the early 1990's, Nottingham Township was a peaceful, rural community consisting mainly of farms and wooded areas. All that began to change in the early 1990's with the development of the Nottingham Forest Plan and the Walnut Ridge Plan. There was, of course, a large influx of people who eventually purchased homes in both developments. In addition, many individuals built or purchased existing homes in other parts of the Township. The result of this influx was a population increase in Nottingham Township.

In approximately 2005, exploration began in Southwestern Pennsylvania of the vast Marcellus Shale deposits which lay thousands of feet below the surface. To take advantage of the natural gas deposits, many drilling companies leased much of the available land in Nottingham Township to conduct gas drilling operations. To date, only one Marcellus gas drilling operation has taken place, but the Township has been informed that in the fall of 2014 another gas well will be drilled. The Supervisors anticipate that this is just the beginning of a surge in gas drilling operations in our Township.

In addition to the Marcellus Shale Deposits, there are high quality coal reserves beneath the ground of the Township. The Township presently has a strip mining company which was recently expanded beyond that of its original plan. To take advantage of the high quality coal deposits, a deep mining operation has purchased property on Little Mingo Road and has applied for a deep mine permit with the Department of Environmental Protection. It is unknown when and if that permit will be approved by the Department of Environmental Protection.

The new housing plans, gas drilling operations, mining operations and pipe lines have significantly changed the landscape of the Township and is expected that it will continue to do so in the foreseeable future.

Burning of Wood Products

Many residents dispose of wood products by burning, which is permitted with some restrictions throughout the Township. Residents are reminded that no fire is allowed to burn or smolder without a responsible adult being present at all times. All fires must be extinguished when burning is complete. To minimize the effect of the burning on your neighbors, residents who engage in burning wood products are requested to consider their neighbors when burning as smoke may adversely affect nearby residents. A copy of the Burning Ordinance is available on the Township website at www.nottinghamtwp.com or obtained by stopping in or calling the Township office at 724-348-5622.

PRIMARY ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2014

Polls will open from 7:00 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. If you are unsure of your voting location, or validity of your registration, contact the Washington County Elections Office at 724-228-6750. The last day to register is April 21, 2014.

"Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you."- Pericles

History around the Township

By Sandy Mansmann, Historian

In 1996, a county-wide search of historic sites in Washington County was conducted by the Washington County History & Landmarks Foundation. As survey director, I would like to introduce some of the sites found in Nottingham Township, which is rich in history. A few of these sites you will easily recognize and others not so much. Some historic structures are now gone.

Kammerer Hotel

Do you remember or know about the Kammerer Hotel, General Store and Post Office that sat where the present county maintenance buildings are on Route 136? The Kammerer Hotel, once known as "Dutch John's", was built by John Kammerer, circa 1840, and served as a hotel and tavern to commuters along the old Williamsburg Pike (Monongahela to Washington), that was earlier known as Glades Road, later as Route 31, and now known as Route 136.

Just prior to its acquisition, an auction was held on the property attended by many local residents as well as antique dealers. The solid walnut countertop from Dutch John's Store was acquired by a resident and donated to Albert Miller for use in the general store at Meadow Village. Skeleton room keys in a portioned wood box were also obtained by a Nottingham resident. The village name of Kammerer still appears on local road maps today. Part of the store's foundation can still be seen in the remaining stone wall. The small frame building pictured is thought to have served as a post office. [1966 photo]

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909 Sugar Run Road
Eighty Four, PA 15330

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
VENETIA, PA 15367
PERMIT #28