

Penn Township

228 Clifford Road
Selinsgrove, PA 17870

570-374-4778

penntwp@ptd.net

www.penn-township.net

Fall/Winter 2014

INTERESTING AND IMPORTANT THINGS ADDRESSED IN THIS ISSUE OF OUR TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER

- Who's littering along our roads?.....see page 4
- Need a project for yourself or your group? see the article on labeling township storm drains on page 5
- Need help if there is an emergency evacuation?....see the back cover
- Plastics recycling - why can't Penn Township accept #'s 3 thru 7....answer on page 3
- Christmas tree collection...are we doing it?...see story below
- Permits are required in Penn Township, yup! see page 4
- East Snyder Park - see page 3 and continue to page 7 to see the highlights from 2014
- Pull out and save Recycling Detail for Penn Township.....center of newsletter
- Who takes care of your road? ...see page 2
- Evidence of 'huffing' in Penn Township!...for full story see page 6
- Tax info and final due date...see page 2
- Election info, who voted in Penn Township and Snyder County overall....see page 2
- Ordinance 2014-01 Parking Restrictions during a storm (\$25 fine)....see page 2

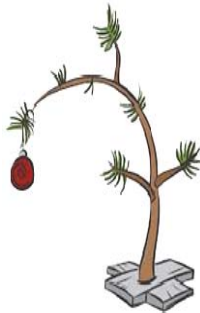
See
back cover
for
'Help Wanted'

There's a chill in the air...done with leaves, on to trees!

As fall comes to a close, colder weather and the holiday season have arrived. The road crew has collected leaves that residents have been placing at the curb and taken them to the compost site located on Gaugler Lane. These are part of the makings for the compost that will be available in the spring, free to all our residents. Help yourself!

The road crew will also be around for Christmas trees after the holidays, starting January 2, 2015 and will take them to the compost site as well. Remember....**no tree bags, no lights, no decorations or tree stands!**

If you decide to enjoy your Christmas tree a bit longer than most and miss the collection period, please feel free to take your tree and any leaves still hanging around to the compost site. All biodegradable material is turned into mulch and compost and is free to all.



Mark your calendars....

THE 2ND ANNUAL

COLOR ME PURPLE 5K FUN RUN / WALK

In 2015 this event is scheduled for April 25 and will again be held at East Snyder Park. The run/walk will benefit the Selinsgrove Area Relay for Life. In April of this year at the 1st Annual event, 160 participants and their supporters braved the wind and cold to support this worthy cause.....and had a lot of fun in the process. Keep the date open and plan on joining the cause for a morning full of fun, smiles, support and a little bit of exercise!

More information will be provided on the township website as it becomes available.

Feel free to contact Mindy Kobel at barrymindy@verizon.net

**ROAD CLOSED
TO
THRU TRAFFIC**

Just a Reminder...of the UPCOMING BRIDGE REPLACEMENT ON OLD COLONY ROAD

Penn DOT will begin replacement of the bridge across the unnamed tributary near Route 204 on Old Colony Road. This section of Old Colony Road will be closed for approximately eight weeks. Penn DOT is proposing Fair Oak Road (to the west on Route 204) as the detour to connect you to Salem Road. Residents along Fair Oak Road should see an increase in traffic during this time.


Please use caution! Allow extra travel time if necessary, be mindful of motorists that may not be familiar with the detour roads and **SLOW DOWN**. As Penn DOT and the Penn Township road crew are out working to improve our roads, please keep their safety in mind.

For more information regarding this bridge replacement refer to our original article in the Spring/Summer 2014 newsletter. Can't find your copy of that newsletter?

Don't fret....copies of previous newsletters, and lots more, are available on the township website. Visit....



www.penn-township.net

<p>Board of Supervisors Fred Ulrich, Chairman Jon Payne, Vice Chairman Brenda Moyer</p> <p>Secretary/Treasurer Lynne Renn</p> <p>Planning Commission Dan Kuruna, Chairman Shane Kerstetter Ben Moyer Mike Kuhns Cornelius Heeren Derek Straub James Geiswite Wiest, Muolo, Noon, Swinehart & Bathgate, Solicitors</p> <p>Planning Commission Sec Brenda Moyer bpenntownship@yahoo.com</p> <p>Zoning Hearing Board Ken Herman Sr. Jan Ritter Joe Dubaskas James Fry, Alternate Robert Cravitz, Solicitor</p> <p>Recycling Coordinator Brenda Moyer</p> <p>Emergency Management Fred Ulrich</p> <p>Recreation Board Tim Laubscher, President Pete DeWire, Vice President Beth Kapsar, Treasurer April Metzger, Secretary Jim Taylor Steve Bogush Jon Payne Brad Longacre</p> <p>Township Solicitors Wiest, Muolo, Noon, Swinehart & Bathgate</p> <p>Township Auditors Beth Kapsar Open seat Open seat</p> <p>Township Contact Info: 570-374-4778 - phone 570-374-4931 - fax penntwp@ptd.net - email www.penn-township.net</p>	<p>PENN TOWNSHIP ROADS</p> <p>If you live on any of the roads listed below your road is maintained by Penn Township. If you ever have a road question or concern, call the Road Supervisor, Isaac Ramer at 570-374-4258 or 570-259-4613. No answer...leave a message, all calls will be returned.</p>	<p>COMMUNITY AID BIN</p> <p>Located beside our recycle bins, the Community Aid Bin is for clothing, shoes and small household items that will fit into bin. Nothing may be left outside bin. Please DO NOT put glass of any kind in the bin. Larger or fragile items could be taken directly to the Thrift Store on the Strip.</p>
	<p>Airtower Road Bake Oven Hill Road Beaver Road Beech Court Belmar Avenue Breezewood Drive Bridge Street Burgess Avenue Calvett Place Calvin Drive Clifford Road Creekside Drive Crescent Avenue Deerfield Court Emily Lane Fair Oak Road Fairview Drive Farmhouse Lane Fawn Drive Fetter Road Foxboro Road Gaugler Lane Graysonview Court Gregg Drive Gregory Avenue Hidden Valley Road Hill End Road Herman Road Horizon Drive Hower Street Ivy Court * Jackson Road Kratzer Road Kuster Road Lisalynn Road Lorian Drive</p>	<p>Meadowview Drive Miller Farm Road Mountain Drive Mulberry Court Mulls Road Old 522 Old Colony Road Old 11 + 15 Road ** Pawling Station Road Peachwood Drive Perkinson Road Pheasant Ave Pine Brook Road Pleasant Drive Quarry Road Ridge View Road * Rudy Road S. Front Street Salem Glenn Blvd. Sand Hill Road School House Lane Sheri Lane * Sportsman Drive Sunset Drive Swope Drive Sycamore Court Universal Road Walters Lane Wedgewood Drive Willow Court Woodlynn Drive</p> <p>* Winter maintenance by Jackson Twp 570-374-4643 **Winter maintenance by Washington Twp. 570-539-8768</p>
<p>PENN TOWNSHIP ROAD DATA</p> <p>33.96 - road miles Penn Twp maintains <u>28.02</u> - road miles in Penn Twp maintained by PennDOT 61.98 - total road miles in Penn Twp Need to contact Penn DOT with a local state road issue call 570-372-9100.</p> <p>Bake Oven Hill - resurfacing planned for 2015! Probable construction cost 200K. With the admin help of SEDA-COG, a portion of the funding will be a Community Development Block Grant.</p> 	<p>WHO VOTED IN NOVEMBER?</p> <p>4324 residents in Penn Twp per 2014 census. Of these residents 2312 are registered voters and the following is the voter breakdown for November 2014.</p> <p>Penn 1 - 1039 Registered Voters 493 Voted = 47.45% turnout</p> <p>Penn 2 -1273 Registered Voters 609 Voted = 47.84% turnout</p> <p>Some municipalities in Snyder Co had over 50% voter turnout, but the county average was 47%.</p>	<p>REAL ESTATE AND PER CAPITA TAXES</p> <p>Ron Zeiders Penn Township Tax Collector PO Box 452 Selinsgrove, PA 17870 570-374-8401</p> <p>Tax collection office hours are provided here in the township building on a limited, but scheduled basis. These dates are always printed on your tax bill. Please note: The township office staff cannot accept your taxes!</p> <p>Other Tax Information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All 2014 taxes can be paid to Mr. Zeiders until December 31, 2014. If you move, let the tax collector or the tax assessment office know to keep rolls accurate. Purchasing a mobile home? Verify all taxes are up to date, taxes are a lien and follow mobile home. If you are mailing your taxes include a self addressed stamped envelope for a receipt. Have a tax payment question, call Mr. Zeiders or the Tax Claim Bureau at 570-837-4220.

Ordinance 2014 – 01

This ordinance restricts parking and prohibits placing property on or along township roads during and following any snowfall or weather emergency. To violate this ordinance could come with a \$25 fine. Cars will be tagged with a warning for the first offense. To read the complete ordinance look on the township website at www.penn-township.net, call or e-mail the office and we will forward a copy to you.

PENN TOWNSHIP COMPOST SITE

The Penn Twp compost site is located at the end of Gaugler Lane off Salem Road. We accept your basic grass clippings, other lawn and garden waste and leaves. These materials all belong in the same area where compost is being made. Also accepted are trees (inc Christmas trees), shrub waste, branches and unpainted or untreated wood. These materials all go on the brush pile to be ground into mulch.

To generate quality mulch and compost there are items that are absolutely not accepted at this site and include:

- **NO** cat or dog waste;
- **NO** treated or painted wood;
- **NO** dairy products;
- **NO** building construction waste;
- **NO** meat or fish bones;
- **NO** fat, grease, lard or oils;
- **NO** plastic or metals;
- **NO** weeds or weed seeds.

Residents... Mulch and compost are free for the taking. Please help yourself.

Delivery containers are also not accepted. Please take your garbage bags, flower pots, and any other transport containers home with you! Leaving these items is the same as illegal dumping and/or littering!

A separate pile is available for wood and coal ashes.

This service is free to all, and open 7 days a week, dawn to dusk.

Only people dropping items at compost site are permitted in this area. Inappropriate activity will ensure closure of this free service.

Surveillance cameras ARE on site and WILL be used to prosecute illegal dumping and/or inappropriate activity. Please don't abuse this free facility!

WANTED FOR SPRING PLANTING

Three (3) Japanese Lilac trees (2" to 3" caliper)

to be planted in the East Snyder Park with the current five near the girls softball fields. Contact Pete or Cookie DeWire if you can help at 570-259-1839.



EAST SNYDER COMMUNITY GARDENS

Located along University Ave. across from East Snyder Park.

The 2015 growing season registration forms and garden rules are available at the Township office. **Call 570-374-1525 or visit the community garden website at escgpa.org for more information.**

WHY PENN TOWNSHIP CANNOT ACCEPT

your #3 thru #7 Plastics...read this so you can understand why?

Recycling at our Penn Township recycling site is a choice you make. If you choose to recycle here, you agree to follow the rules in place for this drop off site. Penn Township does not make all the rules for this site. We follow the guidelines put in place by Lycoming County Resource Management Services¹ (LCRMS).

The question we are constantly asked is why we do not take #'s 3 thru 7 plastics like some places do. LCRMS recently celebrated opening a \$5.3 million single-stream² recycling facility allowing them to accept #1 thru #7's, but, single-stream only from haulers³ who collect directly from residences. That, a business choice by LCRMS and the haulers.

The bins from our site are pulled to LCRMS (free mind ya!) and because we only accept #1 and #2 plastics our bin does not need to be put through the costly sort process used to sort single-stream recyclables.

So, back to your choice...because it is up to you, you can pay to have your hauler collect your recyclables at your doorstep, this would be single-stream, co-mingled, mixed in one bin! This is a service that comes with a fee and your hauler will collect your #1 thru #7 plastics along with any other recyclable items. There is nothing wrong with this, except it is not free and the recyclables do lose some of their value. That's okay too...single-stream collections account for millions of tons of material that do not end up in the land fill.

But, if you choose to continue to use the drop off bins here at Penn Township, you must separate recyclables into the appropriate bin and you may only bring your #1 and #2 plastic bottle and jugs. These clean loads allow this site to remain open and the service to remain free.

The site does have a surveillance camera and any violator identified can be prosecuted. Abuse of our recycling site may cause the bins to be locked and the hours to be limited.

If the rules in place at the Penn Township drop site do not work for you contact your current garbage hauler to see if single-stream collection is available at your doorstep for a fee.

1. The hauler for our Penn Township drop off site.
2. single-stream - the process in which all recyclable materials are placed in one bin (sometimes called 'co-mingled') and sorted at the collection point.
3. Haulers determine where they take their load, it may not be LCRMS.

EAST SNYDER PARK 2014

- Completion of the new **App VanNuys Family Pavilion**. A super special thanks to **Jim and Carol App and App's Limited; Bowie VanNuys and the VanNuys Foundation**. Each generously giving \$14,000 for the construction of this 30' X 30' pavilion.
- **Zackary Elsasser**, and members of **Boy Scout Troop 419** of Selinsgrove, volunteered and completed projects in East Snyder Park, Zack was working toward his Eagle award. This troop replaced (7) wooden planks on bleachers, scraped and painted (5) sets of bleachers, built (2) new benches, dug holes and concreted in a new sign for the horseshoe courts, dug grass out around horseshoe courts and mile markers, then replaced grass with stone. They also painted the mile markers around the walking trail, built an enclosed bulletin board for the **App VanNuys Family Pavilion**, built and added doors to the existing bulletin board at the entrance to ESP, and erected 19 birdhouses throughout the park. In addition **Zack** helped **Pete DeWire** on a couple of occasions with work on the Little League baseball field and the project of repainting the hopscotch court. Thanks **Troop 419** and **Zackary Elsasser** good luck at attaining your Eagle award.
- **Rick DiRocco** had wood for and offered to build (10) bird houses, **Selinsgrove Girl Scout Troop #61141** landed us (9) more birdhouses fully constructed by these fine young ladies and all were installed in the park by **Zack and Troop 419**.
- Trivia...what is the oldest, still standing building in East Snyder Park and built in the 1970's? If you guessed the girls softball concession, you're correct. The building was remodeled this summer inside and out and you could never guess this building is in its 40's! Renovations could not have happened without the generous donations of time, materials and equipment from people and companies like **Orvis Long Painting**, thanks **Orvis Long!**, **DB Construction**, thanks **Dave Bowersox!**, **Pete and Cookie**, thanks **DeWire's!**, **Wood Mode**, **Quikrete**, thanks **Shane Kerstetter!**, **Keystone Building Products**, **Overhead Door**, the **Selinsgrove Girl's Softball League**, **Penn Township** and local residents like **Carl Zechman** and **Ross Hayes**.



...2014 East Snyder Park happenings continued on page 7

LIKES OF A LITTERBUG

On a recent Sunday I walked out Old Colony Road and back the other side. I did this for two reasons, (1) to see just how many whipped topping cans I might find and (2) to collect the rest of the garbage that litters this road.

While I'm sure there are some random litterbugs on this road, by the end of my walk it was pretty clear the same people throw the same things out their windows day after day. And why?

You know how Oprah has her 'favorite things'... well the people who litter on Old Colony Road also have their 'favorite things'! The things picked up over and over are from the person who smokes Newport, Camel '99's and Marlboro Black 100's cigarettes, chews Longhorn long cut wintergreen smokeless tobacco, drinks of choice include Mountain Dew and Pure Leaf Extra Sweet Tea, with the exception of any drink from McDonald's because these litterbugs love, love, love food from McDonald's and lottery tickets. And not just the cheap little \$1 and \$2 tickets, this person is not afraid to drop a lot of money on \$5 and \$10 lottery tickets and then discard the losing tickets out the car window. This same person may also bank at Swineford Bank.

It's hard to understand what makes a person deliberately crank down the vehicle window and toss these things along the road. Seriously, you could just as easily bring it to your own home and drop into your own garbage.

PA Vehicle Code, Title 75, Chapter 37 - litter and waste dropped, thrown or deposited from a vehicle onto a road right-of-way **Penalties:** considered a summary offense, imposes a fine of not more than \$900, depending on where the dumping occurs, and/or picking up and removing litter from public or private property.

So back to the first reason I took this walk --- the whipped topping cans. Along that stretch of roadway there were nearly 50 whipped topping cans....wonder why!!!!

Read the article, **What's the 'Huff' all About!** on Page 6 for more information.

TOWNSHIP AUDITORS WANTED

The township is working to fill two vacated township auditor positions. If you are a resident or a business owner in Penn Township and might be interested, contact the office at 570-374-4778 for more information or call our current auditor Beth Kapsar, at 570-847-1620 for more details.



PENN TOWNSHIP WEBSITE

...Take a look

www.penn-township.net

ARE PERMITS REQUIRED IN PENN TOWNSHIP...YES!

Always a question, always an issue, who needs one and why.

Penn Township has Zoning Ordinance 2005-01, these numbers 2005-01 mean this specific ordinance has been in place since 2005. Penn Township has had a zoning ordinance in place, on again off again, and with many revisions back through the 1960's. The current ordinance is the guidebook with the rules (laws) the township has authority to enforce thru its agents. Within this ordinance are the answers to who and why for permit requirements. The following sections are taken directly from the Penn Township Zoning Ordinance 2005-01 and may help explain why and when permits are required:

SECTION 1102 ZONING PERMITS

Purpose: To determine compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance. No person shall erect, alter or convert any structure or building, or part thereof, nor alter the use of any land, until the Zoning Officer has issued a Zoning Permit.

In reading this section one could believe it to mean...if I want to erect, alter or convert ANY structure or building I may need a permit. But, what is considered a structure? The following definition is from the same zoning ordinance:

SECTION 301 – PENN TOWNSHIP ZONING ORDINANCE – DEFINITIONS

Structure: Any man-made object having an ascertainable stationary location on or in land or water, whether or not affixed to the land.

So, after reading all of the above just to be sure...as a resident of Penn Township, **AND** regardless of whether you own or are renting, should just contact the Township office or the zoning officer to verify permitting requirements.

POOLS, POOLS, POOLS...

Another installation that does require a permit and always seems to cause some confusion are temporary pools. To help clarify that question, again the following is from the same Zoning Ordinance 2005-01 and is the definition for pools:

Swimming Pool, Private

A private swimming pool, but not including farm ponds or lakes, as regulated in this Ordinance shall be any pool, be it permanently installed or temporarily erected upon the ground or a platform, and not located within an enclosed building. Swimming pools shall be considered structures and shall be subject to all the regulations and set back rules that apply to any structure in the township. Small inflatable pools or structures that contain water no more than 1-1/2 feet deep at any point shall not be regulated.

The Penn Township Planning Commission also reviewed the pool and pool permit issue. **Planning did recommend a temporarily erected pool would not require a permit every year the pool is reinstalled as long as the size and placement (location) remain the same.**

PENN TOWNSHIP ZONING OFFICERS

Dave Bowersox - 570-374-6199

Jim Geiswite, assistant - 570-374-5603

Please contact either of these gentlemen before you start

WHY LABEL STORM DRAINS?

In the spring newsletter, the article titled **Stormwater, Storm Drains and Drop Boxes**...contained lots of information on the hazards of grass clippings and pet waste ending up in the drains and drop boxes. This article would be a great reread...and if you no longer have the spring 2014 issue, this along with other past issues, back through 2010 can be found on our website at www.penn-township.net. Look for [Newsletter](#) in left column of the homepage, click, and choose a past issue to reread.



With winter approaching, the weather is changing and grass clippings are nearly a thing of the past for the year. Even so these drains and drop boxes are still at risk for unwanted materials.

Water from rain and melting snow that flows over lawns, parking lots and streets is known as stormwater. This stormwater runoff travels along streets, into drop boxes and culverts, through storm drain pipes and ditches, and eventually discharges into our unnamed tributaries and streams, Penns Creek, and onto the Susquehanna River...all untreated.



Have you ever really thought about the fact that most storm drains do indeed empty directly into local waterways, without treatment? Along the way picking up trash (*fast-food wrappers, cigarette butts, Styrofoam cups, etc.*) and toxins (*used motor oil, antifreeze, fertilizers, pesticides, pet droppings, pool backwash etc.*).

The continued transfer of these pollutants into our local water bodies will aid in the destruction of fish and wildlife and their habitats. These same pollutants present threats to public health due to contaminated food and drinking water supplies and the eventual loss of recreational and aesthetic values.

Even stormwater not fed directly into our waterways can soak into the ground, contaminating the ground water below, which can directly affect those who have wells, whether private or supplying public systems.

Labeling the storm drains and drop boxes in Penn Township could be a reinforcing step in educating and making people aware of the importance of what is going into these fixtures.

Seeing labels might just make people think twice about how they can help to protect our waterways. Here are just a few ways to reduce nonpoint source pollution or people pollution:

- **LITTER:** Place litter, including cigarette butts and fast food containers, in trash receptacles. Never throw litter onto streets or down storm drains, recycle as much as possible. (see page 4)
- **FERTILIZERS:** Fertilizers contain nitrates and phosphates in abundance, cause blooms of algae that can lead to fish kills. Avoid the overuse of fertilizers and do not apply before a heavy rainfall.
- **PESTICIDES:** Many household products made to exterminate pests are also toxic to humans, animals, aquatic organisms and plants. Use alternatives whenever possible. If you do use a pesticide, follow the label directions carefully.
- **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS PRODUCTS:** Many common household products (paint thinners, moth balls, and drain and oven cleaners, etc) contain toxic ingredients. When improperly used or discarded, these products are a threat to public health and the environment. Do not discard with the regular household trash.
- **MOTOR OIL:** Used motor oil contains toxic chemicals that are harmful to animals, humans and fish. Do not dump used motor oil down storm drains or on the ground. Recycle all used motor oil by taking it to one of our local used motor oil collectors. (see side 2, recycling insert)
- **CAR WASHING:** Consider using a commercial car wash that recycles its wash water. Like fertilizers, many car detergents contain phosphate. If you wash your car at home, try using a non-phosphate detergent.
- **PET WASTE:** Animal waste contain bacteria and viruses that can contaminate shellfish. Pet owners must always pick up after pets and dispose of waste properly.

So all this leads to the following:
Help Wanted
 A group, organization or an individual interested in developing a plan to label storm drains and drop boxes in Penn Township.

Littering and cigarette butts:
**most littered item in the world*
**estimated 1 - 5 years to degrade*
**easy way to start a fire*

FLOODING AND YOU

Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 – one Congresswoman whose name embosses this controversial federal flood insurance reform bill wants the law changed to deal with the unintended consequences of the act. The Biggert-Waters act was an attempt to shore up the flood insurance program by moving it towards risk-based pricing. The law was to eliminate premium subsidies for repetitive loss properties, property owners who do not take steps to mitigate, secondary homes and certain properties that have been protected from risk-based rates by grandfathering.

Rep. Maxine Waters, (D.-Calif.), of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act, released a statement saying she is "outraged by the increased costs of flood insurance premiums that have resulted from the Biggert-Waters Act. I certainly did not intend for these types of outrageous premiums to occur for any homeowner", Water's is now working to fix the unintended consequences of this act and passing legislation to delay most rate changes for three years to give FEMA the opportunity to be sure flood maps are accurate and for Congress to ensure rates are affordable. Some families face increased costs that will make homeownership so expensive they could be forced from their homes or find it impossible to sell.

The NFIP (National Flood Insurance Program) began implementing higher rates for second homes in January, 2014. In October, rates for businesses in flood zones and homes that have been severely or repeatedly flooded are supposed to start going up 25 percent per year until the rates reach actuarial indications. As rate increases have begun to be announced, other lawmakers have called for a delay in the law's effects.

For more **FLOODING AND YOU** info go to www.FEMA.gov. Also every past issue of the Penn Township newsletter contains lots of information on how you can protect your home from flooding. Go to our township website, click on [Newsletters](#), and review flood information in past issues.

WHAT'S THE 'HUFF' ALL ABOUT

As was mentioned in the article *The Likes of a Litterbug*, there were two reasons I took a recent cleanup walk along Old Colony Road. One was the number of whipped topping cans seen laying along our roads. Along Old Colony Road alone there were nearly 50 whipped topping cans. Now, people don't just happen to be sipping on a can of whipped topping as they are driving along and toss the empty out the window...that number of whipped topping cans along this two mile stretch of road should alert all of us to a problem, a problem beyond the fact that people are littering along our Penn Township roads.

These cans are tossed because the user (abuser) does not want to be caught with, or while, doing something that is wrong, illegal and could be deadly. Hopefully this article will alert people to what seems like a recent increase in huffing in our township and the surrounding area.

WHAT IS HUFFING...READ ON!

Huffing is the deliberate inhalation of toxic gases, vapors, or fumes in order to become intoxicated (high), possibly to the point of unconsciousness.

Huffing, aka sniffing, dusting or bagging and generally occurs through the nose or mouth. Chemicals can also be sprayed or poured onto a rag or into a bag and then held over the nose/mouth to be inhaled.

The desired effect users are trying to achieve from using these substances is similar to alcohol intoxication.

Studies show huffing is increasingly popular among the 12 to 15 year old age group. While this may be true, the 12-15 year-olds are not driving along Old Colony Road by themselves.

Huffing can kill the very first time a person experiments with it. About 22% of those who die from huffing do so the first time they try it and is known as:

Sudden Sniffing Death Syndrome (SSDS):

A person can die the first time, or any time they use an inhalant, and is known as Sudden Sniffing Death Syndrome. While it can occur with many types of inhalants, it is particularly associated with the abuse of air conditioning coolant, butane, propane, and the chemicals in some aerosol products. SSDS is usually associated with cardiac arrest because the inhalant causes the heart to beat rapidly and erratically, resulting in cardiac arrest.

What are the effects of huffing?

The effects from abusing inhalants can be both short term and long term. These effects vary with the substance abused and in what concentrations they are abused. Of course this feeling comes at a high price, as noted, inhalants can be deadly, even the first time they are used.

Short term effects might include:

- Dizziness
- Nausea/vomiting
- Delusions
- Hallucinations
- Loss of inhibitions
- Impaired judgment - leads to accidents such as car accidents, falls and suicide (from the depression that can follow the high)

Long term and chronic use effects: when huffing doesn't kill quickly, it can be quite damaging to the major organs, especially the brain, heart, lungs, kidneys and liver.

Huffing can lead to:

- Cardiac arrest
- Suffocation due to reduced levels of oxygen
- Choking – on their own vomit.
- Brain damage - includes memory loss and effects on concentration caused by lack of oxygen to the brain
- Muscle damage
- Hearing loss

There are four basic types of chemicals that are used as inhalants:

- **Volatile solvents** - toluene (glues, rubber cement, paint thinners, paint removers), gasoline, correction fluids
- **Gases** - Nitrous oxide (found in whipped cream canisters), chloroform, propane
- **Aerosols** (sprays) - toluene (spray paint), butane (lighters, air fresheners, deodorants, hair sprays)
- **Nitrites** (also known as poppers and snappers) - This type of inhalant is primarily used as a sexual enhancer as it has slightly different effects than the above mentioned substances. Usually sold as "liquid incense" or "room odorizer".

**Most huffing takes place with friends,
pay attention to your child and his or her friends.**

**Inhalants gradually leave the body over 2 weeks following
huffing—mostly through exhaling.**
The characteristic chemical odor is the biggest clue.
Read on.....

What are the warning signs of a teen huffing?

Some of these signs are apparent directly after using an inhalant; others show up down the road.

- Drunken appearance
- Weight loss - lack of appetite
- Glassy eyes
- Odor - chemical smells on clothing/breath
- Pale skin
- Slurred speech
- Rashes/sores around mouth/nose
- Restlessness/nervousness/mood swings
- Missing/empty chemical containers left around or in garbage

Commonly abused:
Dust-Off® - computer spray cleaner
Canned whipped topping
Nail polish remover
Butane lighters
Paint and other aerosols
Glue

If you suspect or discover that your child is huffing, get professional help. Treating inhalant abuse is very difficult and requires expert intervention. Withdrawal symptoms may last for weeks, the relapse rate without a long-term program is very high.

**Preventing huffing is far better than trying to treat an inhalant addiction. Talking with your child about it is more powerful than anything.
For lots of information Google 'huffing'.**

2ND ANNUAL SNYDR COUNTY NIGHT OUT

.....aka 2nd annual night of SUCCESS!

This years event was held Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at East Snyder Park and proved to be bigger and better than last year. Hosted by the Snyder County DA's office, local police departments, PA State Police and 911 Center and supported by Penn Township Supervisors and Snyder County Commissioners. *This FREE event provides families with a safe atmosphere where kids of all ages can gather to learn, play, laugh and (of course) eat.*

For more on this years event see page 7.

Mark your 2015 calendars, Tuesday, August 25, has been set and planning has begun.

In 2013 the horse drawn wagon ride was a huge hit. Sadly, the workhorse team was unavailable this year, but the owner is planning to attend in 2015. Thanks Mike Lessman, we are looking forward to you and your team of horses attending!

VETERANS MEMORIAL

Brick sales will continue until the available space is filled. Want to purchase a brick, stop by the office or check the Penn Township website at www.penn-townshp.net for more information.

....continued from page 4

EAST SNYDER PARK - 2014

- Low and behold the softball concession remodel expanded to include a new attached ADA unisex restroom at the **Jack B. Steffen Field** providing some modern convenience to this end of East Snyder Park. This was made possible because **Pete and Cookie DeWire** had a vision and the ability to draw people into this vision. Because of this vision we again are able and happy to thank **DB Construction, thanks Dave Bowersox for the amazing finished DB look to this project, Wood Mode, Keystone Building Products, the Selinsgrove Girl's Softball League, and Penn Township.**
- This girl's softball area will receive help to construct shade sail dugouts in 2015 with a \$500 donation from the **Dale Miller Memorial Golf Tournament.** The recreation association is looking forward to working with the parents and girls from softball on this project.
- East Snyder Park was fortunate enough to host the 2014, District 13 Little League playoffs for 9 and 10 yr olds. To make everything just perfect, **Pete and Cookie DeWire**, with the help of the **Community Service People** repurposed pipe from an old batting cage to build new dugouts at Field #4. The shade sails and parts required to repurpose the batting cage, purchased by **Selinsgrove Area Little League** and the cement required was provided by **Quikrete.**
- The **2nd Annual Snyder County Night Out** – Another HUGE success! **Pete and Cookie DeWire** physically worked for days preparing and fussing at East Snyder Park just to make sure the park would make a good impression on those who attended. It was estimated 2500 people indeed did get a great impression of our park. On the day of the event the first to arrive and the last to leave once all was cleaned up, somewhere around 9:30 pm **Pete and Cookie!** While these two did do so much to help pull that amazing event off, there were other people who had a hand in the preparation and some extra special thanks are due those as well. You know it indeed 'takes a village' but our newsletter only has so many pages, rather than try to list every individual and hope none are missed, the following groups and companies+ their people, provided funding, materials, labor and or service to make this event a success: **SC Office of the District Attorney, Police Departments of Middleburg, Selinsgrove, Shamokin Dam, SC 911, SC Sheriff's Department and Emergency Services, State Police of the Selinsgrove Barracks, SC Commissioners, SC Coalition for Kids, East Snyder Park Board, Life Flight, parents and players from the 14 and under girls fast pitch team - Sudden Impact, Binbo Bakeries, Susquehanna University, Sunbury Broadcasting/94 KX, Pepsi, Weis Markets, Middleswarth Potato Chips, Peifer's Fire Protection, Penn Township and the Township Road Crew.**
- The **DeWire's** have continued to organize and oversee the **United Way Day of Action.** So more, Thanks! Thanks! Thanks! to the following who participated in the **Day of Action** and helping to keep our park standing tall in 2014: Six employees of **Northumberland National Bank,** (35) members from **Ameri-Corps,** (16) **Susquehanna University** incoming freshman, and township residents **Cindy Moyer, Tim Moyer and Shelly Bogush.**
- There was an idea to ask groups or individuals to adopt flower beds in the park. Look who stepped up, **Linda Dressler, Kim Soper** and others from the Selinsgrove Office of **Susquehanna Bank.** This group adopted the pollinator garden and is doing a great job of keeping it in shape.
- Seems there was always a group of men who flew their model air planes out over the open fields next to the lacrosse/midget football field. Conveniently an airport complete with airstrip appeared and then a windsock from the flying group. This fine group of men are now the aerial photographers of the park. The photos provided are both colorful and interesting! A spot needs to be made on the township website and the photos added. As a side note...women are indeed welcome to fly their planes from this airport at well. Name for the airport...TBD.
- **Girl Scout Troop #61141** cared for their special flower garden in the park - thanks **Wal-Mart** who continues to donate plants.
- Two benches with promise of two more from **Weis Markets,** these made from all our recycled grocery bags.
- East Snyder Park was the setting for a **Color Me Purple 5K Fun Run/Walk** to benefit the Selinsgrove Relay for Life. The event was a success with 160 runners and \$3000 raised. The organizers were so happy with its success (I'm sure it was the venue!) they just scheduled the 2015 date for next year...Saturday, April 25th, 2015. Details will follow on the township website and by e-mail as provided.
- This one is truly amazing...the Snyder County Veterans Memorial! We have heard this all started by an idea from **Supervisor Fred Ulrich** and sure enough **Pete and Cookie DeWire** went to work. The dedication took place November 11th, at 11 am on Veterans Day. Thanks to the **VFW and Harold Aucker,** who helped to keep the information flowing, **Steve Hoffman with the American Legion** and not just in Selinsgrove, connections were made with **Bob Straub** who took the idea and shared it with veterans clubs in the western part of Snyder County. Poster boards were made, 7 or 8 in fact, complete with photos and detailed information. These were moved from location to location as needed to market the project, assuring anyone and everyone who wanted, could purchase a brick to have placed at this site. **Beth Kapsar,** treasurer of the rec board kept all the paperwork and money straight. A few trips to Watsontown and **Glenn Gery Brick,** countless phone calls clarifying and verifying the 300+ orders for bricks to date, and the project was underway. Rocks were needed...that was a trip to **Eastern Industries' Elizabethtown Quarry** who donated the big ones, the others from resident **Steve Bogush** and some leftovers from another park project. Plants, we got them...thanks to **Gus Shultz** and the **DeWire's.** This is just a speck of the work, many volunteers, support and donations that went into this memorial to our Veteran's. If you missed the dedication, take a drive to the park and have a look. Remember bricks are still available; forms are in the township office or on the township website www.penn-township.net. **Scott Kerstetter** recorded the event and a video of the dedication will be added to the park website as soon as he can get it ready. www.eastsnyderpark.com
- The wheels have already started turning for 2015 with hopes of extending the walking trail by an additional ¼ of a mile to encompass the entire 40 acres of the park. An application will be submitted for a grant through DCNR and SEDA COG to improve handicapped access and (19) ADA approved aluminum bleachers to be located throughout the park. This application might also include funding for the much requested swings for toddlers and older kids. Funds for a protective fence between the football/lacrosse field and the "orange" play area will be applied for from a local charitable foundation.



If you look into any of the things noted in this story, any other projects completed, underway or in the planning stages at East Snyder Park, you can be guaranteed to find two common denominators....Pete and Cookie DeWire. The DeWire's continue to do what they love and in doing so they make us all look good. Because of the DeWire's, our community has an amazing public space that many can enjoy. We could never thank them enough, but we can try, so if you happen to see Pete or Cookie DeWire out and about.... do thank them and let them know you appreciate all they do for this community.



PENN TOWNSHIP
228 CLIFFORD ROAD
SELINGROVE, PA 17870

PRST STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT 26
SELINGROVE, PA 17870

PHONE - 374-4778
ROADMASTER - 374-4258
FAX - 374-4931
EMAIL - penntwp@ptd.net
WEBSITE - www.penn-township.net
Fall/Winter 2014

RETURN ADDRESS REQUESTED



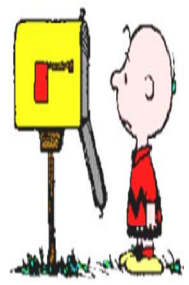
- 1.** If you or anyone you know who lives in Penn Township and might require special assistance in the event of an emergency or flooding situation please contact the Township at 570-374-4778 to add their name to our evacuation list.
- 2.** The VFW is looking for a plot of land on which to build a home for a paralyzed veteran. If you know of any land available please contact the VFW Post 6631 at 570-374-3912 and ask for Harold Aucker.
- 3.** Selinsgrove Area Recreation Inc. (SARI) is looking for a Penn Township resident to serve as a member on their Board. The Board would like to have representation from all the surrounding areas that utilize the Selinsgrove pool and other benefits provided. If interested in this position contact Rick Mease, at PRMease@ptd.net or call 570-274-0052.
- 4.** The township and the park board are always looking for people to get involved in the East Snyder Park. Contact Pete at 570-259-1838.
- 5.** Help me to keep you informed... email me at bpenntownship@yahoo.com and I will add you to our e-mail list. Your e-mail address **will not** be shared.
- 6.** Polling site Penn 2 is looking for help on Election Day...interested, see more info on page 2.

LOOKING FOR PENN TOWNSHIP INFORMATION....

www.penn-township.net

OFFICE CLOSED?

You can drop your zoning permit applications, pavilion rentals, extra chocolate bars, etc into the black box beside our front door. This drop box is **NOT** for your taxes or water/sewer payments. They will not get to the appropriate people.



SEWAGE CODE ENFORCEMENT

In 2013, Dan Page became the Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) for Penn Township. The SEO issues septic permits, inspects septic systems and reviews properties when a complaint is received about a private septic system.
You can contact Mr. Page at 800-639-3641