

ATTENTION!

We would like to include all area organizations and church group major events and schedules in our newsletter. We need your help. If your organization has a major event, please contact the following person for a complete Schedule of Events or an article written about an event, please contact Natalie or Jack by E-mail: nawlibtw@earthlink.net, fax: 717-642-9885 or mail it to Natalie Williams, P.O. Box 619 Fairfield, PA 17320 by the 10th of the month preceding the activity.

Liberty Township Board of Supervisors

Leonard M. Sites, Chairman
47 Brent Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-8231

Charles Alexander, Member
890 Tract Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-5285

John E. Miller, Member and Roadmaster
106 Summit Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-5648, Twp. Bldg.: 717-642-9842

Township Officers

Natalie A. Williams, Secretary/Treasurer
2 Skyline Trail, Home A
Fairfield, PA 17320
Business Line: 717-642-1253 Fax: 717-642-9885,
E-mail: nawlibtw@earthlink.net

Judy Crum, Zoning Officer
845 Pecher Road
Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-5160

Auditors: Fred Crum, Nanette Hatzes and Teresa Rodgers

Walton Davis, Solicitor
63 West High Street
Gettysburg PA 17325
717-537-1600

Planning Commission Members

Phil Burgess, Chairman
140 Cassina Trail, Fairfield, PA 17320
717-642-5007

Secretary: Jane Clements
Members: Bart Hogan, Peter Foscatto, and Bob Robinson

The Liberty Township News
39 Topper Road
Fairfield, PA 17320

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A newsletter of the people, for the people and by the people....

Liberty Township News



Volume IV, Issue IV

July 1, 2002

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Greetings From Your Supervisors!

By Leonard Sites, Chairman

The municipality continues to do very well. We are fortunate to live in this great environment. How many times have you met a visitor to our area and they remark how great and nice it is? Maybe we should reflect more often on our good fortune. The township continues on a moderate growth. There are approximately six new homes under construction or near completion at this time.

Congratulations to our two area resident who recently celebrated their 90th year on June 5th. Mr. Fred Crum, Sr. and Mr. Robert Grant are to be honored.

Come to a monthly township meeting and take part in your community.

Solicitor's Corner

By Wally Davis, Solicitor

A Blow for Business, or Just Hot Air



The Pennsylvania Legislature has been active in amending the Municipalities Planning Code ("MPC") lately. Twice this year it has amended sections of the MPC that prescribe the time limits within which hearings before the Zoning Hearing Board must be commenced and completed. In recent legislation, it also appeared to stand firmly behind home based business; or did it?

The piece of legislation in question was known as House Bill 411. It became Act 43 of 2002 when the Governor signed it on May 9, 2002. The effective date for the provisions dealing with home based businesses is December 1, 2002.

At first glance, it appears that home based business has been given a position of priority in the scheme of land use laws. The statement of purpose for the MPC will be amended "...to small business development and [to] foster a business-friendly environment in this Commonwealth." Section 603 of the MPC will be amended to provide that "[z]oning ordinances shall permit no-impact home-based businesses in all residential districts as a use permitted by right ..." (emphasis added). Such ordinances are not, however, allowed to supersede deed restrictions or planned community bylaws prohibiting home based businesses.

But when one reads the definition of "no-impact home-based business," some of the thrill is gone. Certain parts of the definition are expected: the business must be accessory to the principal use of the property as a residential dwelling; the business must be compatible with the residential use of the property and surrounding residential uses; it may not involve any illegal activity (old the drafters really believe that restriction needed to be expressed?); and, the business must be conducted within the building and occupy no more than 25% of habitable floor area.

But the remainder of the definition may lead one to wonder what is being permitted. Here goes:

1. there can be no customer, client or patient traffic, whether vehicular or pedestrian. (Good bye to beauty salons, doctor offices, TV repair shops, and baby sitting services.);

Continued on page 2

It's Unofficial!

Potpourri....

By Natalie A. Williams

- Read **Plain Truth** by Jody Picaut. It is a page-turner and it takes place in Paradise, PA.
- "Successful people take care of themselves." And, "a recent study found people who love their work are at less risk for heart disease." (Transformational Thoughts)
- In these scary times, be safe.
- Life is a process of choice.
- READ! Go to your library and take out books to enlighten you, cheer you up, and to enjoy the long hot summer days.
- Please read Wally's column about home businesses. It is mind-boggling that our state government passed that legislation.
- Enjoy your summer and stay cool.
- Another good book to read or movie to see is **Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood**.
- "Only the facts ma'am." Dragnet. Remember that show?
- TGIS—Thank God I Am Single is a favorite saying of my divorced friends.
- Who invented air conditioning?
- Did you ever wonder why animals are always so close to the road? Are they hitchhiking?



NEW!!!!

Starting July 1, 2002
Liberty Township Office Hours
At 39 Topper Road
Mondays and Wednesdays
1 PM to 3 PM

Greetings from the White House

This is for all couples celebrating a 50th wedding anniversary or more, and seniors celebrating an 80th or more birthday! You can receive a greeting card from the President to commemorate the occasion.

Contact the Greetings Office one month ahead of time and be prepared to give the names, addresses of the recipients along with the date of the big event.

Greetings Office, Room 39, The White House, Washington D.C., 20555.

Call 1-202-456-7610, FAX 1-202-395-1232
Email: president@whitehouse.gov

Letters To The Editor

Editorial Policy

By Bob Robinson

The Liberty Township Newsletter encourages full participation by members of its community, and accepts letters and perspective articles from its citizens. They must be signed by the originator, include a current address, daytime telephone number for verification and must not exceed 200 words in length.

Reproductions of official minutes are based on submission by the officials noted. Modifications made for the sake of clarity are approved by the originator before publication.

Material will be selected for publication based on available space and relevancy to community issues. We reserve the right to edit all submitted material. Letters, photographs and perspective articles will not be returned. Address communications to Bob Robinson, Editor, Liberty Township Newsletter, 39 Topper Rd., Fairfield, PA 17320 or E-mail at datswood@pa.adelphia.net.

Publisher: Natalie A. Williams
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Township Solicitor: Walton Davis
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This is the official publication of Liberty Township. Questions concerning township issues and activities should be directed to the appropriate official and/or officer.

Attention, Parents:
If you want to know how the Fairfield Area School District (FASD) is performing, please look at the Standard & Poor's Report on the Internet. It is an eye-opening report.

It allows one to compare FASD with other districts.
Go to wgai.com and look at the link for schools. Take the time to read it!

Continued from page 1 - Wally Davis

2. there can be no pick up, delivery, or removal functions to or from the premises in excess of those normally associated with residential use. (Don't call UPS to come pick up the widgets that you just made in your basement, and don't take them (removal) to UPS yourself.);
3. the business can employ no one other than family members who reside in the dwelling;
4. there can be no display or sale of retail goods, and no stockpiling or inventory "of a substantial nature". (Say good bye to making crafts and storing them for the annual crafts fair.);
5. there can be no outside appearance of a business use. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, signs, lights and parking;
6. there can be no generation of solid waste or sewage in excess of that normally generated in the neighborhood, nor can it be of a different quality than that generated in the neighborhood.

These restrictions seem to eliminate any type of service business, such as appliance repairs, car repairs, beauty salons, child care, small manufacturing and cottage operations. It seems to eliminate home bases for other services done in the customer's home but which involve storage of materials and parts at home. These could include plumbers, handymen, computer repair technicians, or other such businesses where parts and inventory would be shipped to the home base for storage and used as needed.

So what is left? I suppose freelance writers, teachers grading papers, internet researchers, telemarketers, and typists (where the manuscripts come infrequently through the mail or delivery services) are examples of what is included. But those types of businesses have been conducted in homes for years, and no one even knows they are there. This writer is unaware of any zoning enforcement proceedings ever being pursued against such limited business use of a residential property under existing law.

So, has the Commonwealth struck a blow in favor of home based business, or just blown some hot air that accomplishes little to nothing? You be the judge.

Fairfield Fire and EMS

Gordon Sachs will return September 1st.

Community Policing Information System

By Police Chief Jim Holler

With the uncertainties of the threat of terrorism both abroad and local, many of us are asking questions about what we can do to help prevent domestic terrorism. Frequently I hear people say that we really don't have crime here in Liberty Township or terrorism will not affect us here. I wish those statements were correct. Although we do live in a somewhat rural area, we are still susceptible to the same type of crimes found in the larger cities. Terrorism already had a direct affect on us. We have based in our township a highly sophisticated military installation that was utilized to its highest extent on September 11th. The FBI has been telling us for months that they feel that the next round of attacks will be on rural America. Should we be ready? You bet! We want to do everything possible to better prepare ourselves and our community for whatever may come our way.

We will fax or email information called "Facts Please" and it is a tool that will be used to help share important information with you.

This bulletin will be sent bi-weekly and any critical information will be sent out as it is received. Please email me your email address and anyone who you think me like to receive this information.

We hope this information will be of some benefit to you or a loved one.



Middle Creek Bible Conference

Invites you to our 5th Annual Bible Conference at the construction site near the corner of Pumping Station Road and Bulfrog Road on August 30th to September 1st.

Southern Gospel Concert—Friday 7 PM

Larry Ford, Sue Dodge and The Johnsons

Old Fashioned Hymn Sing—Saturday 7 PM

With Paul and Marge Ferrin on organ and piano

Inspiring Speakers at Each Session

Friday, Saturday and Sunday AM

For more details, call 888-770-5338 or www.middlecreekbible.org
 Brochures are available

No admission charge—all are welcome!

Monthly Schedule

July 2nd Township Supervisors Meeting
 July 4th Independence Day!!
 July 16th Planning Commission Meeting

August 6th Township Supervisors Meeting
 August 20th Planning Commission Meeting

September 2nd Labor Day!
 September 3rd Township Supervisors Meeting

Please note that beginning July 1st, the township secretary will have office hours at the township building on Mondays and Wednesdays from 1 PM to 3 PM.

Township Meetings

The Board of Supervisors for Liberty Township will meet on Tuesday, July 2nd, and August 6th at 7:30 PM in the township building at 39 Topper Road.

The public is invited to attend. Your input is valued. Become involved in your community and attend these meetings.

We hope to see you July 2nd at 7:30 PM.

Friends of Frederick County Public Libraries, Inc., The Emmitsburg Branch Library

The Emmitsburg Branch Library moved to its temporary site in April. It will move back to its renovated site in 2003. Please visit us on Silo Hill (by Subway).

The Emmitsburg Branch Library is available to Pennsylvania residents. The one time charge for a library card (non-Maryland residents) is \$40. If you would like a Frederick County Public Library card, please see a librarian at the Emmitsburg Branch Library.

The Library Hours are:

M – W 10 AM—9 PM, Th & Sat 10 AM—5 PM,
 F 1 PM—5 PM

News From the Liberty Township Tax Collector

Important Tax Information

by Natalie A. Williams

The 2002-03 school and occupation tax notices will be in your mailbox by July 1st.

To obtain a receipt for taxes paid, please enclose a self-addressed **stamped** envelope with your payment and the **taxpayer copy**, which will be returned to you stamped "paid."

I receive calls from taxpayers at 642-1253. If I am unable to answer the phone, please leave a message and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Please do not call before 9 AM or after 6 PM Monday through Friday. We appreciate your understanding.

Zoning Officer's Report By Judy Crum

May 7th Report:

- Judy Crum worked 61 hours. She received 53 phone calls; 16 were referred to Mr. Sites, 11 to the SEO, 9 to the courthouse and 2 to Mr. Miller.
- Permits were issued to Wayne Souders for a storage shed, James Tully for a garden shed, John Lalima for a garden shed and to David Wivell for a front porch.
- No occupancy permits were issued. No road permits were issued.
- Expenses were 22 stamps and 125 copies. Mileage was 73 miles.

June 4th Report:

- Mrs. Crum worked 69 hours. She received 57 calls; 17 were referred to Mr. Sites, 4 to the SEO, 11 to the courthouse and 2 to Mr. Miller.
- Permits were issued to Clyde McClain for a house addition and to John Knox for a garage/shed. No road or occupancy permits were issued.
- Expenses were 24 stamps, 100 copies and mileage was 62 miles.



Roadmaster Report

By John E. Miller

See pages 5 and page 9.

If you notice any road maintenance problems please contact Mr. Miller at 642-9842.

Continued from page 9—Dirt Road

What if it rained and the dirt road got washed out? That was the best part. Then you stayed home and had some family time; roasted marshmallows, popped popcorn, pony rode on daddy's shoulders and learned how to make prettier quilts than anybody.

At the end of dirt roads you soon learned that bad words tasted like soap. Most paved roads lead to trouble. Dirt roads most likely lead to a fishing creek or a swimming hole.

At the end of a dirt road, the only time we locked our car was in August because we didn't want some neighbor filling it with too much zucchini. At the end of a dirt road there was always extra springtime income from city dudes getting stuck. You'd have to hitch up a team to pull them out, usually you got a dollar but always a friend at the end of a dirt road.

Planning Commission Meeting — April 16, 2002 Minutes

By Jane Clements, Secretary

Members present were Phil Burgess, Bart Hogan and alternate member Leonard Sites. The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved on a motion by Bart Hogan and seconded by Leonard Sites.

The first item discussed was the Dublin land addition. Phil Burgess has not clarified the requirements for the sewage modules and has found that only Form B's need to be done. The lot addition will now go before the Supervisors next meeting for approval.

The next item discussed was the Rogers subdivision. The planning commission has received the comments from Wm. F. Hills but have not had the county comments although the client has. These comments were discussed and action will be taken where necessary to comply with the requirements. The client will then have the plan redrawn to include the changes required and this plan will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Raymond Kipe had some questions regarding a future subdivision of his property. He was advised to have a plan drawn and contact the commission when he is ready to proceed.

Mr. Alpheu Cisar also had some questions regarding placing another house on his property. The commission advised him to have perc tests done and then return to the board with a sketch plan.

A plan has been received for a 10.10 acre lot sale of property belonging to Mr. Robert Peloquin. The commission will send the plan to the Zoning Officer but it does not need to go to the township engineers. Form B's were reviewed and signed off for further discussion next month.

Lastly, a plan for the Luther Martin Estate was discussed. The commission would like to see some additions to the drawing and once it is redrawn will send it to the Zoning Officer and the township engineer for their review and for further discussion next month.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM on a motion made by Bart Hogan and seconded by Leonard Sites. The next meeting is May 21st.

Planning Commission Meeting — May 21, 2002 Minutes

by Jane A. Clements, Secretary

Present were Phil Burgess, Peter Foscatto and alternate member Leonard Sites. The minutes of April's meeting were read and the meeting began at 7:30 PM.

Walter Rogers' subdivision was discussed regarding the redrawn plan and are to be the set back requirements clarified with the township engineer. Any changes required will be made and as all other conditions have been met, the plan will go before the June supervisors meeting for their final approval providing the sewage modules have been received. Motion was proposed by Peter Foscatto to approve the plan pending receipt of sewage modules. Motion was seconded by Leonard Sites.

The Luther Martin estate was discussed regarding the engineer's comments. Lee Royer is to be informed that the commission wishes him to comply with changes requested by the engineers and have a new plan drawn and sent to the commission for their review for further discussion.

A sketch plan was requested for a one lot, 16-acre subdivision along Tract Road for Mr. & Mrs. Phillips. The plan is to be sent to the township engineer and Zoning Officer. The client will take it to the county for their review. The commission will review the plan in the next month and discuss it at their June meeting.

Mr. Clifton Kipe questioned panhandle lots and the requirements of their creation. The commission explained that they can only be used for land locked land. Mr. Kipe was given a copy of the relevant portion of the township ordinance and asked to draw a sketch plan and come again to the commission meeting if he wished to proceed with a subdivision.

The lot addition for Rick Myers was discussed and Mr. Myers was informed that the commission is still awaiting the Form B and county comments so the addition will be further discussed at the next meeting.

Gene Farkas resigned from the commission. The commission would like to thank Gene for his hard work over the last months and hopes he enjoys his other commitments.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 PM on a motion proposed by Peter Foscatto and seconded by Leonard Sites. The next meeting is June 18th at 7:30 PM.

Board of Supervisors Meeting — May 7, 2002 Minutes

By Natalie A. Williams, Secretary

The meeting began at 7:30 PM. Mrs. Williams called the roll. Present were Leonard Sites, John Miller and Charles Alexander.

Chair's opening remarks:

Mr. Sites asked the residents of Liberty Township to mail birthday cards to Fred Crum Sr. and Bob Grant to celebrate their 90th birthdays. Both gentlemen were born on June 5, 1912.

Public Participation:

• Jerry Stein who lives on Sultz Road said he received his first newsletter. He asked about the building code. Mr. Sites advised per a seminar he attended, municipalities are waiting for guidance from Adams County. The building inspections will cost \$0.25 a square foot. BOCA will be in place by September/October 2002.

• Jerry Stein asked about resurfacing Stultz Road. It will be done in 2003. Crum Road will be done this year.

A question was asked about a culvert on Irishtown Road. Mr. Miller says the ditch needs to be opened.

Minutes:

Mr. Sites made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Motion was approved by the three supervisors.

Mrs. Williams advised the township received Liquid Fuel Funds in the amount of \$41,156.00.

Approval of Bills:

Mr. Sites made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Alexander seconded the motion. Mr. Miller, Mr. Sites and Mr. Alexander voted to approve the bills.

Treasurer's Report: See page 10

Other Business:

- Mrs. Williams asked approval to pay Terminex annually. The supervisors gave their approval.
- Larry Weikert was sworn in as a Police Officer for Liberty Township by Mr. Sites.
- Mr. Sites made a motion to appoint Mrs. Williams as Chief Administrative Officer of the Township for the Pension Fund Plan, which must be done annually and that Jim Holler does not contribute to his pension fund. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Sites, Mr. Alexander and Mr. Miller voted to approve the motion.
- Mrs. Williams reminded the supervisors that the Statement of Financial Interests were due May 1st.
- Mrs. Williams advised the CD at F&M Bank in Emmitsburg matures on May 20th. She advised that PLGIT's interest rate is 2.26% for 12 months, and F&M is 2.5% for 12 months. Adams County National Bank has 3.0% variable rate for 12 months. Mr. Sites recommended the money be moved to a money market account at Adams County National Bank until the interest rates increase again.
- Mrs. Williams presented a letter from the MS Bike Tour to be held July 13-14th. Mr. Sites signed the letter stating the township was advised.
- Mr. Sites advised that beginning in 2003, the township will be audited by a professional firm. The budget for 2003, which will be prepared in 2002, will reflect such in the budget.

Solicitor:

- Mr. Davis advised we do not need a resolution if a motion is approved by a vote of the supervisors. Resolution/Motion is the same thing as a copy of the minutes when the seal is put on them.
- Mr. Sites said he receives calls on Charnita properties that won't perk. Gil Picarelli, SEO Officer, is concerned about fill sites on Charnita lots. And, that Liberty Township is responsible if the sewage system fails. DEP says you can use fill sites.
- Mr. Sites asked Mr. Davis if the township can say there must be 16 inches plus before putting in a fill site. Mr. Davis said "No, we cannot have structures stricter than DEP."
- Mr. Sites asked Mr. Davis to meet with Rep. Maitland and Rep. Nichols to bring the matter up to the state levels.
- Mr. Davis advised he received the address change contract from Adam County's attorney and it is still being revised with minor changes. It should be ready for the supervisors' signature shortly.
- Mrs. Williams will advertise the Holding Tank Ordinance in the Gettysburg Times to be voted on at the next meeting on June 4th.

Continued on next page

Continued from page 6

- DEP is collecting a fee to review modules effective June 1, 2002. A check must accommodate the module. Gil requested a log be kept to ensure that all is completed via a checklist and then sent to DEP.
- Mrs. Williams advised that last fall she requested the supervisors and/or planning commission compose a spread sheet following LASDO. Nothing was done. Mr. Sites said his son would put it on the computer for distribution.
- Mr. Davis advised that if Gil didn't do a perc test, a new one must be done. The landowner should hire a consultant to make sure all is done because it is not the responsibility of the township.
- It was decided Gil should send the modules to Jane Clements, the planning commission secretary. She will send them to Mrs. Williams to bring to the Supervisor's meeting for approval after everything has been completed.

Zoning Officer Report: See page 10.

- The sign on SR 16 was discussed. Mr. Sites claims it is legal, but doesn't like it. However, the other supervisors do. Mr. Sites asked Mrs. Crum to send an enforcement letter. He said the sign must come down.
- BOCA begins in 4 months. Mr. Sites advised that Mr. Ed Screener will provide building inspections. He charges 20 cents a square foot. We will keep our own identity.

Planning Commission:

- Luther Martin Estate subdivision was approved by the supervisors.
- Gene Farkas resigned from the planning commission.
- Mrs. Williams asked Mr. Burgess if Mrs. Clements could mail her 4 copies of the minutes instead of one copy and if she could email her the minutes.
- Mr. Cisar wants to install a septic system. Mr. Sites told him to call DEP in one week.
- Mr. Phillips asked for a sign-off on the property before June 18th. Mrs. Clements has the modules. Will review at the next meeting.

Roadmaster Report:

- Mr. Davis and Mrs. Williams advised the supervisors needed to vote on a motion that the township can advertise for bids to pave Crum Road. Mr. Sites, Mr. Miller and Mr. Alexander voted yes.

Final Input:

- Mr. Sites stated he wants Mrs. Williams to work at the office twice a week for two hours. She will advise the supervisors what days and hours she will work.
- Mrs. Williams asked that the ladies room bathroom be fixed. Mr. Sites said yes and asked Mr. Alexander to do it.
- Mr. Sites went to a breakfast for Rep. Maitland. He asked Rep. Maitland to look into the township receiving more money back from the state for police funds. He asked Chief Holler to do a study. We only receive 27% of the ticket money.
- Mr. Sites wants an ordinance for abandoned cars.

Adjournment

Mr. Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Alexander seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Dirt Roads by Paul Harvey

What is mainly wrong with society today is that too many dirt roads have been paved. There is not a problem in America today—crime, drugs, education, divorce or delinquency that would not be remedied if we just had more dirt roads. Dirt roads give character.

People that live at the end of dirt roads learn early that life is a bumpy ride. That it can jar you right down to your teeth sometimes but it's worth it, if at the end of the road is home—a loving spouse, happy kids and a dog. We wouldn't have near the trouble with our educational system if our kids got their exercise walking a dirt road with other kids from whom they learn how to get along.

There was less crime in our streets before they were paved. Criminals didn't walk two dusty miles to rob or rape if they knew they'd be welcomed by 5 barking dogs and a barrel shotgun.

Our values were better when our roads were worse. There were no drive-by shootings. People did not worship their cars more than their kids. Motorists were more courteous, they didn't tailgate by riding your bumper—or the guy in front would choke you with dust and bust your windshield with rocks—dirt roads taught patience—dirt roads were environmentally friendly; you didn't hop in your car for a quart of milk, you went to the barn. For your mail, you walked to the mailbox.

Continued on page 10

History In The Making

By Priscilla Storrs

We have all heard about whiskey bootlegging during the 1930's. How about coal bootlegging in the 1930's?

Beginning in the mid-1700's coal mining in Pennsylvania fueled the Industrial Revolution in the United States.

It began to support the Colonial iron industry, then Andrew Carnegie's steel mills in the 1800's and finally electric power plants of more modern times. Economically, mining today contributes about 1 percent of Pennsylvania's gross state economic product through coal sales.

During the 1902 coal strike, when many families experienced serious difficulties, many pickers would go where the diggings from the mines were dumped and get what they could to heat their small homes and cook their food. Most mining companies permitted this. The miners did this mainly at night because they were still uncomfortable with it. However, they had to care for their families as best they could.

In the 1920's equipment became more efficient with less coal being thrown out of the mines and many workers were put out of work. The pickings became more and more scarce and finally almost a matter of history. By the end of the 1920's, under the pressure of extreme economic necessity, illegal miners began to dig coal for their neighbors for cash. This was the beginning of the "bootleg" coal business-as they and their customers began to jokingly call it.

When the Great Depression engulfed the country, coal bootlegging probably doubled. In the town of Centralia, where nearly all legitimate coal mining had ceased, the number of illegal miners at least tripled. In the winter of 1930-31, when growing numbers of people requested help with their fuel, they were told to get their own fuel wherever they could. So they would go "into the woods and over the hill" to someone they knew who was bootlegging.

Sometimes the coal was used not only to heat their homes, but a small bag could be traded to the local grocer for some food or given to the church in place of an offering. Many small store owners said that the coal they got helped them survive and keep their stores open until the Depression was over.

Of course, at the repeal of prohibition, bootleg whiskey was no longer, and so now the bootleg coal has met its end. Who knows? Some of the coal may have found its way into our little corner of the state, called Liberty Township. Does anyone have any memories of this?

I used much of this information from an article called "The Great "Bootleg" Coal Industry" by Louis Adamic that was published in "The Nation" newspaper January 9, 1934 as well as on the Internet under "Coal Mining in Pennsylvania." There is a great amount of information to be found on the subject of coal mining of which I have only scratched one small interesting note.

Police Report for April 2002

By Chief Jim Holler

- Chief Holler advised our new police officer, Larry Weikert, works in Gettysburg and is also a building inspector.
 - The police worked a total of 329.5 hours and mileage was 2,202.0.
 - Chief Holler was on call for 296 hours and was paged out 2 times.
 - Traffic included 14 traffic details.
 - The First Annual Youth Safety Day was a huge success; over 300 people attended and over 100 kids were fingerprinted.
 - If you are going on vacation, please advise the police department, who will check your residence.
 - Chief Holler asked if Jessie Myers could continue to work a couple of hours a week because she has been a big help freeing him from paper work. It was approved by the supervisors.
 - Mr. Sites asked Chief Holler about regionalizing the police departments. Chief Holler said he is against it; there must be a commission formed from the municipalities to report to. It would give the area 24 hour coverage even though it might not be the same. Mr. Sites said he is attending a meeting regarding the regionalization. (A letter was received from Mayor Becraft of Carroll Valley who is coordinating the effort.)
 - Mr. Sites read a letter from Dan Hill on Gladhill Road "to say THANKS and recognize the efforts of Chief Holler on the planning and coordinating the Youth Safety Day." He also complimented Natalie and Jack Williams. "The newsletter goes a long way toward keeping people informed on what is happening, and fosters a better sense of community in Liberty Township."
- May 2002
- The police department worked 286.5 hours with 102 incidents.
 - One person impersonated an officer and they are looking for him.
 - One construction theft.
 - 16 traffic details.
 - Mr. Davis reviewed the Fairfield Police proposal.

Police Report: See page 8.

Zoning Officer Report: See page 10.

Planning Commission:

- Per Mr. Sites, Rusty Ryan inspected Apache Trail and there are wetlands.
- Mr. Sites advised that the DEP issued a letter stating "denitrification systems for individual use are no longer listed as an alternate system as of March 30, 2002."
- There is a meeting on the Monocacy River Watershed on May 15th. Mr. Sites and Mr. Alexander plan to attend it.

- Act 105 has been deleted.

- More information is needed for the Luther Martin Estate plans.

- Mrs. Williams also had the Rogers plan, which according to the supervisors was not ready for approval.

Roadmaster Report:

- Signs on Orchard Road and SR 16; there have been a lot of complaints. Mr. Sites told Mr. Wivell to remove the Doug's Body Shop sign. Mr. Davis advised Mrs. Crum should send an enforcement letter per 616.1 of the township code.

- Mr. Miller stated on May 13th they will start cutting grass and digging ditches.

- Mr. Miller bought the hydraulic hammer and will start the guard rails on Steelman Marker Road in the fall.

Final Input:

Chief Holler inquired about saying the Pledge of Allegiance before every meeting, which is a great idea.

Board of Supervisors June 4, 2002 Meeting (draft)

By Natalie A. Williams, Secretary

The Pledge of Allegiance was said. The meeting began at 7:32 PM. Mrs. Williams made roll call. Present were Leonard Sites, John Miller and Charles Alexander.

Chair's opening remarks:

Mr. Sites explained the word "pledge" means promise, "allegiance" means loyalty as to a nation and "indivisible" means united.

Public Participation: None

Minutes:

Mr. Sites made a motion to approve the minutes from the May meeting. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

Treasurer's Report: see page 10.

Approval of Bills:

Mr. Miller made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Alexander seconded the motion. Mr. Miller, Mr. Sites and Mr. Alexander voted to approve the bills.

Other Business:

- Mrs. Williams advised the supervisors the Liquid Fuel Funds Auditor said that the township should have fire-proof file cabinets. Mr. Sites made a motion to purchase fire-proof file cabinets. Mr. Miller seconded the motion. Mr. Sites, Mr. Miller and Mr. Alexander voted to approve the motion.
- Mrs. Williams also told the supervisors that Peggy Weibel from the Governor's Center will assist the township auditors with the audit on June 13, 2002. Assistance was requested because a new form is being used.
- Paul Goetz made a presentation regarding his subdivision plans. He started by making a joke about Chief Holler giving him a speeding ticket for going 35 mph because it was changing to 25 mph in two months.
- Mr. Goetz distributed 3 packages to the supervisors, Mr. Davis and Mrs. Williams regarding his options.

The following is a summary of what occurred at the meeting regarding Mr. Goetz's subdivision plan. If you would like a copy of the recorded meeting, please send a letter requesting it and it will be sent to you after July 2nd when the minutes will be approved at the Board of Supervisors Meeting.

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- Option 1 stated Mr. Goetz was told "not to worry about my sketch plan; just bring it along when the soil sites were probed and perked." The Planning Commission minutes in The Liberty Township Newsletter dated May 2002 stated: "the commission would like to see their proposed cul-de-sac extended so there are fewer driveways along the road." There are two driveways that passed DOT regulations as they egress onto the state road. Permit numbers are 972979 and 982615.
- The planning commission also noted that "they cannot give approval for this plan until the sites have been successfully perked and that in the meantime, the zoning regulations may change."
- Option 2 referred to the cul-de-sac.
- Option 3 is in reference to the planning commission is dissatisfaction with the revision of their revision.
- Mr. Sites said Mr. Goetz would like board approval tonight, and it can't happen tonight. Mr. Burgess said the cul-de-sac is needed to eliminate panhandles. It was not approved because the sewage facilities were not approved yet. Mr. Sites said it hasn't perked yet. Mr. Goetz said if the site does not get approval that is his problem. Mr. Sites advised the planning commission is in the process of updating the zoning ordinance, but it is not finalized yet.
- Mr. Davis, Solicitor, stated the sketch plan is a quick approval. The planning commission can vote yes or no. The Board of Supervisors do not vote on the sketch plan or final plan. The planning commission can only recommend to the Supervisors to approve it. The person should file the preliminary plan even if planning commission denies it. The supervisors must approve it if it follows the Land and Subdivision Ordinance (LASDO). It must have sewage approval from DEP and must have a driveway permit from DOT. Planning commission must tell everyone they did not approve it. The Supervisors must use LASDO. If the Supervisors disapprove, the courts will go with Mr. Goetz.
- According to Mr. Sites, Mr. Goetz is concerned about disturbing too much soil. Mrs. Crum advised Earth Disturbance Act - more than 5 acres - new law effective 12/31/02 it will be 1 acre. If you have a subdivision, there will be a federal review.
- Mr. Sites recommends the supervisors meet in Mr. Davis' office with Mr. Goetz, and Mr. Burgess. Mr. Davis advised Mrs. Williams the meeting must be advertised in the Gettysburg Times and he will tell her the date.
- Mr. Burgess stated he thought he was being fair with Mr. Goetz and they were looking after him. Mr. Sites told Mr. Burgess the work might be in error.
- Mr. Kipe stated that per the codes and ordinances, panhandles are legal to enter a lot...what right does anyone have to tell Goetz he can't do it?
- Mr. Davis advised that Mr. Goetz should have forced the issue instead of filing sketch plans.
- According to Mr. Davis, panhandles are allowed to access property.
- Mr. Sites closed the discussion when it became a heated argument.
- Mrs. Crum asked for the sketch plan process. The sketch plan is required/reviewed and then the property gets perked. If it is denied, the planning commission must inform everyone. The supervisors have 90 days to vote yes/no. No matter what the planning commission says, the matter can go to the supervisors for their approval. Mr. Picarelli, the SEO said if there is no septic, no lots. And it must go to the DEP before the supervisors can sign it.

Solicitor:

- A vote was taken to adopt the ordinance for holding tanks which was advertised in the Gettysburg Times. Mr. Sites, Mr. Miller and Mr. Alexander voted yes.

Police Report: Please see page 8

- Mr. Sites noted the proposed regionalization of our police department with Carroll Valley, etc. The state will do a feasibility study to determine its practicality. Hamiltonban Township already declined to be a part of it. Carroll Valley, Freedom and Highland Township voted to be a part of the study. Mr. Sites asked the supervisors for a vote on whether Liberty Township should take part in the study. Mr. Miller and Mr. Alexander both stated they were happy with the present police force and voted against it. Mr. Sites voted yes. Motion denied.

SEO Report:

- Mr. Gil Picarelli described the process for the sewage modules:
- To subdivide, one must do a probe/soil test and should contact him.
- If you have an existing lot, you don't need a planning module. Cost of the probe is \$120 per lot probe test, \$180 per perc test but neither includes back hoe fees.
- Schedule includes:
- Do a probe test/passes/do perc test/passes/send reports to land owner/developer. Submit to consultant. The planning module is submitted to Gil. He signs off on it.
- Then it goes to the planning commission. They approve it, sign it. It goes to the supervisors. They sign it and it goes to the DEP. Two copies go to the DEP.
- It is sent to Natalie by Jane Clements to give to the supervisors to approve at the meeting and be signed off by everybody.

Continued on page 9**Liberty Township Police Department's Address and Phone Numbers**

39 Topper Road, P. O. Box 58, Fairfield, PA 17320
Emergency Phone Number: Dial 911
 Non-Emergency county control phone number: 334-8101
 Office phone numbers: 642-6103 and 642-5307
 E-mail address: libertypd@cvn.net

Liberty Township Police News**By Police Chief Jim Holler****Terrorism Update**

Your police department receives weekly and sometimes daily, updates directly from the FBI in regards to domestic terrorism. During the past several years, special interest extremism, as characterized by the animal liberation front and the earth liberation front, has emerged as a serious threat. The FBI estimates that these groups have committed more than 600 criminal acts in the United States since 1996, resulting in 43 million dollars' worth of damages. Are we exempt in our area from terrorism? The answer is NO! The FBI believes that the next round of attacks will not be in a huge city like New York or Washington, but instead, this attack will be on rural America, striking us where we would never think it could happen. What can you do? Be on alert for suspicious activity. If you see something or someone that seems suspicious, call 911. As Americans, we all need to become involved in this country's security. You are an important part and never feel embarrassed to report any activity that you think to be suspicious. Are you interested in starting a neighborhood watch program on your street? Call the police office at 642-6103.

Public Education News - NEW Elder Check Program

We are pleased to announce a new program that the Police Department has implemented called, "Elder Check." If you are someone who is living alone or know an elderly person within the Township who lives alone and would like the police department to make a friendly weekly check on the residence, making sure that the resident is okay and are being taken care of, please let us know. Sometimes a friendly face popping in is all that we need to give us the strength to continue with our day. Hopefully we can make a difference. You can make a request by calling the police office at 642-6103.

Vacation Check Program

As I mentioned last month we do a house check program under which officers will check your residence while you are away on vacation. So far this program has been a huge success! If you want to participate, please call the office at 642-6103 and request a house check form. This form will have your name, phone number, the dates that you'll be gone, the location of where you will be with an emergency contact number and who will be permitted to be on your property while you are gone.

Youth Safety Day

Our first annual youth safety day was held on Saturday, May 4th at the Glider Airport. What a HUGE success it was! Over 300 kids and parents attended throughout the day. Our officers fingerprinted over 100 kids. We had robots, fire trucks, bloodhounds, ambulances and police units on hand to provide everyone with a whole lot of fun! We have already begun to start planning next year's event and have received many calls from organizations that want to participate.

Be safe, be sound, be wise.**Have a Happy Fourth of July!**