Maidencreek Township

Spring 2013

Thoughts From the Board of Supervisors

Maidencreek Township
1 Quarry Road
P.O. Box 319
Blandon, PA 19510
Phone: 610-926-4920
Fax: 610-926-6314
Email:
maidentwp@aol.com

Hours:
M-T-W 7am to 4pm
Th 7am to 6pm
F 7am to 11am

Tax Collector
Barbara Hassler
610-916-1902
16 Adele Avenue
Blandon, PA 19510

I am sure many of you have heard that the project to improve Route 222 is moving forward. The improvements being proposed are widening of Route 222 to a five lane roadway from the Ontelaunee Township line to a location north of the traffic light at Tamarack Blvd. The Route 73 intersection improvements include turn lanes with turn prompts for traffic signals. At Tamarack and Genesis, a "Roundabout" is proposed. This concept is very new to our area but is gaining momentum on a nationwide basis, as U.S. DOT proposes it for intersection improvements as a safety initiative. DOT engineers assure us that roundabouts are not traffic circles. An informational type hearing is proposed sometime in March, with Penn DOT engineers and project coordinators at the Fleetwood High School to introduce the plans to the public. This meeting will be important to anyone who will want to be heard on the proposals and be educated on the concept of the "Modern-Roundabout" and the exact day and time will be advertised in the Reading Eagle when set.

We have looked over the plans, and are skeptical of the proposal. Do roundabouts suit this intersection with its high traffic volume, and its mixture of tractor trailers and autos? How will storm water run off be handled? We have suggested that the intersection be improved to five lanes of north-south travel, while the cross traffic at Tamarack and Genesis remain at their current width with a traffic signal. The Maidencreek Township Board and Staff recently met with officials about the following concerns:

1. SAFETY With the Roundabout being in close proximity (1/2 mile) to the Route 73 intersection, will the backup create gridlock in the circle as traffic backs up past the circle? We know that the traffic collecting in 2 lanes of straight through traffic will decrease the length of the backup, but we believe it will not eliminate it.

2. LOSS OF TAX BASE Will the Roundabout cause a decline in access to the businesses along the corridor to the point where the businesses leave our township? We value the businesses we have. In joint planning with neighboring municipalities, we have looked at and designed for the growth along 222. Loss of the ability to grow in this corridor creates a financial hardship for the Township and the School District. Will we ultimately see more requests for rezoning for residential development along Route 222 instead of the more lucrative business based tax structure, which also creates jobs during these times of financial distress?

We urge everyone to learn about Modern Roundabouts and evaluate the differences of the two concepts. We surely need a change, and it has been long awaited, yet, will the solution proposed meet with success?

We want to hear from you, our residents and businesses. Please send you thoughts and comments on the roundabouts to Maidencreek Township, P.O. Box 319, Blandon, PA 19510 or email them to maidentwp@aol.com. Keep checking our website and the Reading Eagle regularly for the informational meeting date and time.

The Board of Supervisors

Blandon Ambulance Membership Drive

Be on the look out for membership information in the mail from the Blandon Ambulance Association. By becoming a member, should you need to use ambulance service, the Ambulance Association will accept whatever payment for service your insurance company provides and will not bill you for any amount not covered by the payment. Memberships will run from April 1st to March 30th. If you did not receive a card in the mail to sign up, call 610-926-7797.

Maidencreek Township Events

MARCH 15 . . .Hesse's Hot 3 @3:30 – Keystone Villa—Berks Jazz Fest Concert
MARCH 21 . . .Blood Drive – Blandon Fire Co
MARCH 30 . . .Easter Egg Hunt – Blandon Fire Co
APRIL 7 . . . . . Pete Souders Trio @2pm– Keystone Villa—Berks Jazz Fest Concert
MAY 4. . . . . Scrapbook Class @9:30 am at Township Building
MAY 11 . . . . . Fishing Rodeo – Blandon Fire Co
MAY 18 . . . . . Skip Moyer & The Swinging Foxes – Keystone Villa—Berks Jazz Fest Concert
JUNE 1 . . . . . Past, Present & Future Classic Car Show Maidencreek Community Park
Community Day Local musicians & Fireworks
JUNE 15 . . . . Concert – sponsored by Blandon Mennonite Church Maidencreek Comm Park
JUNE 21 . . . . Midsummer Night Movie Under the Stars @ 8:30 Maidencreek Community Park
JULY 5 . . . . . Concert & Cones – Music & Ice Cream Social Maidencreek Community Park
JULY 14 . . . Maidencreek Old Time Music Festival - Maier's Grove

FLEETWOOD AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

For over 20 years, the Fleetwood Area Public Library has been serving the citizens of Fleetwood, Maidencreek, and Richmond Townships. Your library has become a vital source of education and recreation. A **free** library card will provide access to:

- Over 25,500 books in-house (including large print editions), audio books, DVDs and more than 20 periodicals.
- The ability or order materials from any library in Pennsylvania, delivered to Fleetwood,
- Free E-books which can be downloaded at home,
- Eight public computers with free internet access (including Ancestry.com),
- **Free** children's activities (including story times, Lego club, crafts, and an extensive summer reading program,
- Programs for all ages: Meet the Author, lectures, Greedy Readers Book Club, family craft nights and book bingo. (Visit our website for current information) **www.berks.lib.pa.us/fleetwoodapl**
- Help from our friendly library staff

Your library is administered by a local 9-member Board of Trustees who meet the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM. Trustees set policy, establish the budget, plan special events, and keep our patrons informed about library issues. We also welcome any suggestions you may have about how we can serve your needs. We are always looking for energetic people to serve as volunteers in many capacities. Please contact the library if you are interested at 610-944-0146.

Our location on the second floor of the Fleetwood Community Center, 110 W. Arch St. is handicapped accessible.

Hours: Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9AM to 8PM
Tuesday 2:30PM to 8PM
Friday 9AM to 1PM
Saturday 9AM to 4PM



We hope to see you soon…**Fleetwood Area Public *Library Board of Trustees***

A MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

JUNE 21st

@8:30 pm



Maidencreek Community Park, 753 Park Road, Blandon

Movie begins at 8:30 pm

Free Admission

Concession available.

Bring a blanket or a chair and join us for a showing of:

RISE OF THE GUARDIANS

Sponsored by the Maidencreek Park and Recreation Board

Saxophones...Trombones...

and All That Jazz!

Friday, March 15
3:30-4:30 p.m.
Hesse's Hot 3



Sunday, April 7
2:00-3:00 p.m.
Pete Souders Trio

Saturday, May 18
3:00-4:00 p.m.
Skip Moyer & The Swinging Foxes, featuring Amber Rae

This special series of the 2013 Boscov's Berks Jazz Fest, presented by the Berks Arts Council, will be held at Keystone Villa at Fleetwood, 501 Hoch Road, Blandon.

Concerts are FREE and open to the public.



WANTED NEW MEMBERS!!!

JOIN THE BLANDON LIONS CLUB
SEE A LION MEMBER TO SIGN UP TODAY!!!
For further information contact
Dave Hunsberger 610-926-5324

Past, Present and Future Classics Car Show &

Community Day June 1, 2013

Join us in the morning at the Maidencreek Community Park for a display of over a 100 great cars. Admission is free to spectators. Registration forms for car entries are available at the Township Building or online at www.maidencreek.net.

After the car show, stick around for Community Day. We have many activities planned to help us celebrate the people of our Township as well as many organization participating with information and displays. Enjoy the Maidencreek Ball Club All Star Baseball Game, fabulous food, rides and a full day of entertainment that includes a magician, Dance Studio, the Fleetwood Middle School Orchestra, the Fleetwood High School Jazz Band, and the sweet vocals of Blandon native Cheri Showalter. The evening entertainment will finish with Mitch and the Mood Swings who will take us back to the music of the 1960's and a fireworks display around 9:30pm.

2012 Best in Show
Photo by Derin Phillips

Maidencreek Old Time Music Festival

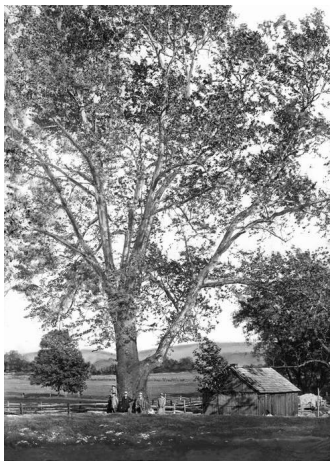
July 14, 2013 Maier's Grove, Blandon

Learn to Play Appalachian Music * Workshops
Music throughout the day * Evening Concert
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner available

For more details & cost of admission visit:
http://www.meadowoodmusic.com

This event is sponsored by Meadowood Music
8521 Allentown Pike, Blandon, PA

Free mulch is available at the Municipal Building for all residents beginning in March.



Largest Sycamore in Berks County stands by the Willow Creek in between Rt. 73 and Schaeffer Rd.

RESIDENTIAL BRUSH COLLECTION

March 25, April 1 & April 15

Brush collection has been growing in size and popularity. We are happy to provide this service to you.

Have your brush curbside by 7am on Monday of the collection week. Limbs should be cut into 12 to 15 foot lengths. We can not accept trunks with a diameter greater than 15 inches or stumps with roots attached. Please call the week prior to collection. If you are putting out an entire tree, we will pick your property up last. Please consider using our yard waste drop off site located at 1200 Maidencreek Road next to Custom Milling. The yard waste drop off site is open seven days a week during daylight hours and is for RESIDENTS only. Please report any commercial dumping or person dumping trash to 610-926-4920.

ELECTRONIC DISPOSAL

New rules for disposing of electronic devices took effect January 24, 2013. Under the state Covered Device Recycling Act of 2010, waste haulers will no longer be able to take laptops, computers, monitors, televisions and other electronics with the regular trash. Electronics may be dropped off at the Berks County Electronic Recycling Center, 1316 Hilltop Rd, Leesport on a Tuesday, Thursday, or Saturday from 8 a.m. to Noon. Some fees apply. Call 610-478-6362 for rates or visit their website at www.co.berks.pa.us/dept/swa.

Willow Creek Project—from Neat to Natural

Maidencreek Township, the PA Fish Commission and the Berks County Conservancy have partnered together to improve the water quality along a section of the Willow Creek. Located between Route 73 and Schaeffer Road, the 5000+ feet of stream and 6+ acres of pasture were dedicated to the Township for recreation by several developers between 1990 and 2005. The Park and Recreation Board was given the task of finding a use for the flood prone area. The PA Fish Commission began stocking the Willow Creek with trout in 2006 and approached the Township about ways of improving the water quality of the stream, stabilizing the stream bank, providing recreation opportunities for the residents and restoring the riparian buffer in the pasture. Through grants obtained from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Schuylkill River Restoration Fund the project includes fish habitat structures, planting of more than 1800 trees and shrubs, maintenance of a trail and educational signage. The project is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2013.

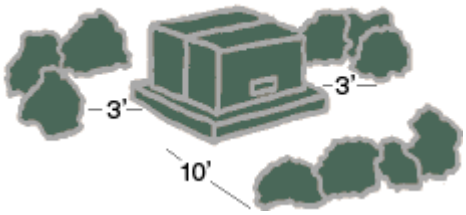


Our goal is to make the best use of the Willow Creek Open Space by using it in a way that minimizes upkeep and is kinder to the land and wildlife.

Landscaping Near Utility Boxes

Digging Near Underground Lines

Customers serviced by underground power lines should be aware of landscaping clearance and other guidelines before working around utility equipment.



Maintaining proper landscaping clearances around pad mount transformers allows crews to safely perform necessary inspection and maintenance work. Woody plants, ornamental grasses, shrubs and trees must be kept at least 10 feet from the front of the pad (the side with the enclosure doors) and at least 3 feet from the sides and back. Plantings located too close create a dangerous work area and may hamper efforts to restore power in an emergency. In addition, the plants may be damaged by workers trying to access underground facilities.

Before adding or removing trees, shrubs or other plantings (including stumps) anywhere on your property, obtain free safe digging information to avoid disturbing buried utility lines. PA One Call - Open 7 days a week including holidays. Call at least 3 working days hours ahead, but not more than 10 days before 1-800-242-1776 or 811. The following work site information will be needed:

- County, city or township
- Street address
- Intersecting streets or roads
- Distance and direction from intersection
- Extent of work (front/rear/both sides)
- Date excavation will take place
- Type of work
- Your name
- Contact phone number



Annual Street Sweeping

April 9th, 10th & 11th

Please do not park cars on the roadway between 7am & 6pm.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Building & Zoning Office

Maidencreek Township uses Systems Design Engineering as our Code Enforcement Officer. They issue permits for building projects like decks, sheds, interior alterations and additions and investigate complaints pertaining to code violations like high grass, abandoned vehicles, and malfunctioning septic systems.

You may contact the Township office by phone, email or in person for building permit applications, questions or to leave a message for the Code Enforcement Officer regarding a complaint. We are here to help. You may also stop in during the Code Officer's weekly office hours for assistance on **Thursday evening from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Township Building. All permit applications are online at http://www.maidencreek.net/Zoning/zoninghome.html.** It can take up to two (2) weeks for permit approval during the spring and summer due to the large number of permit applications we receive.

MAIDENCREEK TOWNSHIP

P.O. Box 319
Blandon, PA 19510

www.maidencreek.net

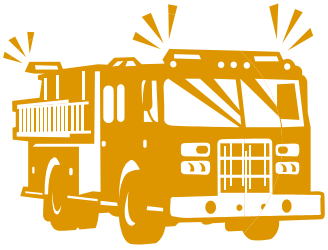


Blandon Fire Company #1

Volunteer Firefighters…More than Fighting Fires

The Blandon Fire Company offers a number of opportunities to serve your community through the volunteer fire service, and much of it has nothing to do with firefighting.

Fire and emergency services are one of the most diverse and challenging professions. The diversity in this line of work is what inspires most men and women to volunteer in the fire service. Members must train and prepare to cope with situations that range from building fires to hazardous materials incidents to medical problems, and almost any other emergency situation.



The thrill of excitement, the agony of defeat, the feeling of accomplishment, the best of helping others! The Blandon Fire Company is seeking the help of good people to help others in times of severe need. Companies don't operate with a single volunteer, so why not jump in and help.

There are many other ways to assist your community through the Blandon Fire Company. These include:

- EMS/MEDICAL SERVICES,
- JUNIOR FIREFIGHTING,
- RECRUITMENT,
- FUND-RAISING,
- RECORD KEEPING,
- FINANCIAL SERVICES,
- BUILDING RENOVATIONS,
- COMMUNITY SERVICES.

Help us to help others, call now! For more information, contact Fire Chief Daniel Miller by stopping by or calling 610-926-2811.

Thank You

Dan Miller, Fire Chief
Blandon Fire Company #1