

FrancTalk

Newsletter of Franconia Township • Spring 2009

Two Full-Time Officers Added to Police Department Staff

At recent public meetings, the Franconia Township Board of Supervisors voted unanimously to hire two new full-time police officers. Kurt J. DeForrest received his oath of office from Special Court Judge Kenneth Deatelhauser on October 20, 2008 at the Board's monthly business meeting. DeForrest, 29, is the department's fourteenth full-time officer. He had worked previously for the East Pikeland Township Police Department in Chester County. He is a native of the Downingtown area.

Chief of Police Joseph Kozeniewski noted that DeForrest brings three years of experience to the department. "Officer DeForrest had an excellent service record with his previous department. We are looking forward to Kurt's contributions to Franconia Township." Officer DeForrest resides in Harleysville with his wife and two children.

The department then welcomed its fifteenth full-time officer at the Board meeting on Monday night, January 19, 2009. Again, Judge Deatelhauser administered

the oath of office to Christopher Hinnershitz. Officer Hinnershitz had been a police officer for nearly twelve years with the Upper Perkiomen Police District Department in Pennsburg.

Chief Joseph Kozeniewski commented that the department is fortunate to have the availability of Officer Hinnershitz's experience. "He served as a patrol supervisor with his former department. We have hired a quality person," added the Chief. The new officer officially joined the department on January 2nd and he has successfully completed his field training. He is now assigned to a regular patrol shift with a partner officer.

The police department is now staffed to meet current and future work demands. It will also provide flexibility in sched-



Franconia Township Police Chief Joe Kozeniewski presents new Officer Kurt DeForrest with his uniform shield at his swearing-in ceremony.

uling of officers as the township grows, especially with the anticipated September opening of the new Souderton Area High School in the heart of the township as well other anticipated projects. 🌹



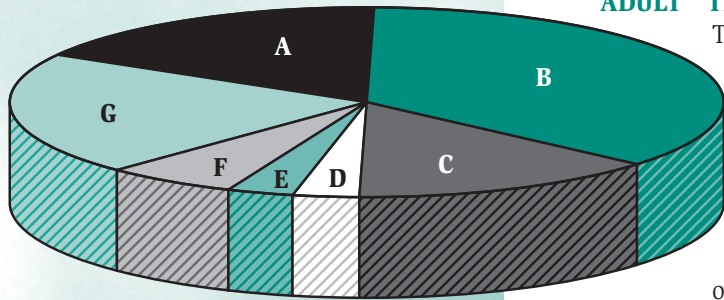
Special District Court Judge Kenneth Deatelhauser (left) administers the oath of office to newly appointed Franconia Township Police Officer Christopher Hinnershitz. The officer's wife, Tina, holds the bible during the ceremony.

Chairman Selected by the Board of Supervisors

Supervisor Steven P. Barndt was re-elected Chairman of the Board at their annual organizational meeting on January 5, 2009. Grey R. Godshall was re-elected 1st Vice-Chairman and W. Keith Freed was re-elected 2nd Vice-Chairman with Supervisors Drew Darrah and Curtis N. Kratz completing the board's composition. 🌹

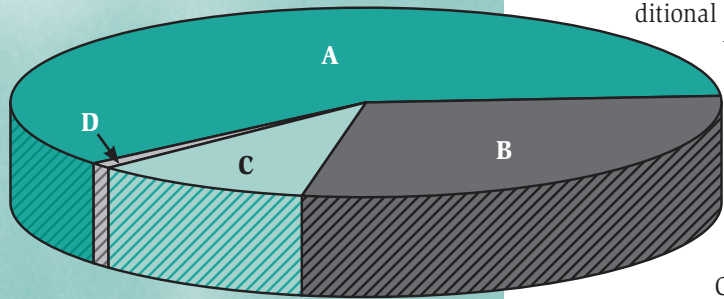
2009 Township Budget Approval

The Board of Supervisors approved a \$6.18 million 2009 General Fund budget. The general purpose millage rate (.730) was increased from the previous year (.689). The fire (.125) and library (.165) support remained unchanged. The township 2009 millage rate was set at 1.0209.



Expenses are allocated to the following departments:

- A) Administration: \$1,017,785
- B) Police/Fire Protection: \$2,181,249
- C) Public Works: \$837,833
- D) Code Enforcement: \$208,456
- E) Recreation: \$211,968
- F) Debt Service: \$363,543
- G) Interfund Transfers: \$1,309,417



Revenue is from the following sources:

- A) Taxes (Real Estate, EMST, EIT): \$3,706,331
- B) Intergovernmental Revenue: \$1,828,350
- C) General Government Fees: \$620,570
- D) Operating Transfers: \$25,000

Park News

WINTER SKATE EVENT: On Sunday, January 25th, 2009 the Franconia Township Parks & Recreation Committee held a winter skate event at the ice skating rink located at the Franconia Community Park. Skaters enjoyed an open skate and the board members served hot chocolate. It was an enjoyable afternoon and the committee would like to thank everyone who participated.

ADULT TENNIS TOURNAMENT:

The Park & Recreation Committee is planning an adult summer tennis tournament. The tournament will be held at the courts located at both Franconia Community Park on Allentown Road and Branchwood Park located on Camp Road. Board member Neves is organizing

the event and additional information will be forthcoming. Please check the township website for additional information at www.franconiatownship.org

SAVE ALLIANCE: A new group called SAVE Alliance has come to Franconia Township!! This is an organization that promotes the environment through education and community action. It meets the second Tuesday of the month at the SAVE House at West Broad Street Elementary School at 7:00PM. This group will be sponsoring many events such as workshops on energy for the home and office, organic gardening, recycling, and many more activities to help us have a Green Township! There is a web page at <http://savealliance.ning.com>. Please check the website for the next meeting date and join us to learn more about this new and exciting organization! 🌱

Franc Talk Notes

REMEMBER TO VOTE: Election Day is just around the corner! The Township reminds all eligible residents to vote on Tuesday, May 19, 2009. Voter registration forms are available at the township building as are absentee ballots. Listed below are the polling places within Franconia Township. If you are unsure at which polling location you should be voting or you would like additional information pertaining to the election please contact Voter's Registration at 610-278-3280.

POLLING PLACES

Franconia North-East: Christ Church at Indian Creek, Church & Cowpath Roads, Telford.

Franconia North-West: Franconia Township Building 671 Allentown Road, Franconia

Franconia South-East: Immanuel Leidy's United Church of Christ, 276 West Cherry Lane, Souderton

Franconia South-West: Peter Becker Community 800 Maple Avenue, Harleysville (Main Auditorium-Administration Building)

DISCOUNT AMUSEMENT PARK TICKETS: The Park & Recreation Board will be selling discount amusement park tickets again this summer. The tickets usually arrive around Memorial Day and can be purchased at the Township office located on Allentown Road during normal business hours (M-F 8AM-4:30PM). Tickets must be purchased with cash or money order, no checks please!

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: Residents of Franconia Township that have an interest in serving on a committee or other volunteer commission should submit a Volunteer Application form to the Township Manager. The township retains applications for a two-year period to fill vacancies as they occur. The township relies on volunteer residents to be part of the legislative committees that assist the Board of Supervisors in their decision making process. Support your township by being a volunteer!

NOTICE: Any illicit discharge as defined in the Franconia Township Stormwater Ordinance is a violation of the code, and those who dump will be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to a fine. 🌱

2009 Township Road Construction Projects

- Final wearing course of blacktop will be placed on **Lower Road** this year; This project will be coordinated with the high school completion of the paving on their property
- Installing storm drainage, curbing, and sidewalks on **Leidy Road from Mifflin Street down to the cemetery**; adding an entire travel lane to move traffic away from the church on the corner creating a stop intersection; after these items are completed the entire road will be milled and paved from **Mifflin to Cowpath**
- **Chip Seal Project** - Cowpath Road from Broad Street to Township Line Road, Summit Street, Clemens Road and a section of Indian Creek Road
- Improve the sight distance at the **Delp Road and Allentown Road** intersection coordinating that project along with the sanitary sewer installation on that roadway
- **Fall 2009** - Installing the wearing course of blacktop on the northern end of **Godshall Road between Indian Creek Road and Morwood Road** where the sewer and water have been installed
- Build a walking trail from Harrington Village Open Space through the school property out to West Broad Street 


2009 Other Road Projects

The following road projects/closings are in conjunction with the installation of sewer lines throughout various locations in the township.

- **January-April - Allentown Road from Morwood Road to the Branch Creek Area**; PennDot detour will have the stretch of Allentown Road from Morwood Road to Ridge Road (563) closed; the detour will divert traffic around this area; Construction will take place during the hours of 8:00AM until 5:00PM.
- **February-May - Allentown Road from Route 113 to Lower Road**; This stretch of Allentown Road will be closed; Follow Detour signs to avoid Allentown Road entirely from the areas of Lower Road all the way to Ridge Road (563).
- **February-May** - Other sewer work will impact **Morwood Road between the Turnpike to Cowpath Road**; In addition to **Sunset Lane and Rising Sun Road**.
- **February-May** - Minor sewer work will be scheduled for **Forrest Road and Cowpath Road near Forrest Road and Allentown Road near the municipal building**.
- **April** - For 1 week in April the intersection of Route 113 and Allentown Road will be under construction; to minimize traffic impacts the work will be performed in the evenings.
- **May-July** - Other sewer work will impact **Souder Road; Schoolhouse Road near Lower Road; Schoolhouse Road near Nice Road; and Forman Road**. 

Sewer Treatment Plant Update


The Franconia Sewer Authority is making progress with the waste water treatment plant project. As you may have noticed a driveway was installed on Souder Road. In addition, equipment was purchased and the bids awarded for construction of the facility. The project is on target for the startup date which will coincide with the opening of the new high school.

For more information on ongoing sewer projects please check the website at www.franconiatownship.org/sewer/index/html. 

Verizon Update

The township has received numerous calls asking when the Verizon Fios Service will be available to area residents. There have been questions regarding the delay of this service and a misconception that delays are due to an unsigned franchise agreement. The Verizon-Franconia Township Franchise Agreement was approved in September 2008. Utility permits have been continually issued over the past two years by the township for Verizon to complete the infrastructure work required for the new service.

The Verizon timeline anticipates a 90% build out of Franconia Township within 3-5 years. Within 8 years the township will have 100% coverage through Verizon. The Souderton/Telford areas will be the first to receive the FIOS services. The Harleysville area is anticipated to be the last area to receive the service – although some Harleysville portions may receive service sooner. Over the course of the next 1-2 years most township residents should have the ability to connect to Verizon FIOS if they choose to do so.

For additional information regarding your service please contact Verizon directly at 1-888-438-3467 or the Verizon website at www.verizon.net/fiostv. Also, residents may inquire about the status of service at www22.verizon.com/about/community/pa where property addresses may be entered to determine when their residence is scheduled for the service upgrades including FIOS services. 

Events Calendar

Tuesday, April 21st, 2009

NPWA Fire Hydrant Inspection & Flushing

Annual inspection and flushing of fire hydrants will take place during the above noted dates. Flushing will be done in the evening between the hours of 8:00PM and 4:00AM. Customers may notice a minor discoloration in the water and/or lower than normal water pressure. If this occurs run the water for 10 to 20 minutes and try the procedure again. If problems persist contact the office at 215-855-3617.

Saturday, May 9th, 2009

Fishing Derby

WHEN: 9:00AM - 11:30AM

**WHERE: Branchwood Park
Camp Road (Morwood, PA)**

State Representative Robert W. Godshall and the Franconia Park & Recreation Commission will be sponsoring the 17th Annual Youth Fishing Derby this spring. All youths up to age 12 may come out and join the fishing contest. There will be refreshments and prizes!

Saturday, May 16th, 2009

Franconia Township Clean-Up Day

WHEN: 7:00AM - 12:00 NOON

**WHERE: J.P. Mascaro and Sons
Transfer Station
Lower and Wile Roads**

Franconia Township has designated Saturday, May 16th, 2009 as Clean Up Day. Any Franconia resident may dispose of normal household trash at the J.P. Mascaro and Sons Inc. Transfer Station located on Lower and Wile Roads.

Prior registration is required and can be done beginning May 1st in person at the Franconia Township Municipal Building located at 671 Allentown Road between the hours of 8:00AM to 4:30PM. Registration is first come first served and spaces will be limited. Normal household trash may include:

- *Old appliances and "white goods" (i.e. old dishwasher, washing machine)*
- *Refrigerators or freezers (only with condenser and coils removed)*

Construction debris, grass clippings, motor oil, tires, paint and hazardous materials and car parts will not be accepted!

Wednesday, July 22nd, 2009

Mango Men

WHEN: 7:00PM - 9:00PM

**WHERE: Franconia Community Park
(Rain Date - Thursday, July 23, 2009)**

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board is pleased to announce that the Mango Men will be back for their 8th annual concert in the park this summer. Please come out and join us on the lawn of the Franconia Community Park. There will be plenty of music, food, and fun!

Mon. thru Thurs., August 3rd - 6th, 2009

Youth Tennis Clinic

WHEN: 9:00AM - 12:00 NOON

(Friday of each week will be a make-up day.)

**WHERE: Franconia Community Park
Tennis Court**

The Franconia Park & Recreation Board will be providing two four day tennis clinics this summer! The clinic will be

for children age 7-12 years old. Skilled instruction will be provided by Monica Bach. The cost of the clinic is \$75.00 per person. If you are interested in developing your tennis skills this is the clinic for you! Just bring a tennis racket and join in on the fun!

Tuesday, August 4th, 2009

National Night Out Against Crime

WHEN: 6:00PM - 9:00PM

**WHERE: Franconia Community Park
(Rain Date - Wednesday, August 5, 2009)**

The Franconia Township Police Department will be hosting its 13th Annual Night Out Against Crime celebration. This is an annual worldwide event in which law enforcement agencies, local officials, local businesses, and citizens get together to increase anti-crime awareness and strengthen community partnerships. It will be a fun filled family night with emergency equipment demonstrations, car show, give-aways, basket raffle, food and refreshments. For more information visit the police website. If your organization would like to participate, please contact Janice Froshour at 215-723-6777.

Saturday, October 16th, 2009

Cure P.D. 5K Run

WHEN: 7:00AM Registration

8:30AM Race Begins

**WHERE: Franconia Community Park
(Starting Point & Registration)**


Karen Pellak and her family will be holding the 6th Annual Cure P.D. 5K Run at Franconia Community Park. The details of the run have not yet been decided and will be forthcoming.

Camp Road Bridge Replacement

In November a representative from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and their engineering consultant made a presentation to the Franconia Township Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission regarding the Camp Road Bridge Replacement Project. According to their presentation the project is

scheduled to enter the final design process in 2009 with construction scheduled for the spring of 2010.

The design presented indicated that the existing bridge will be removed and the replacement bridge will be installed 25 feet downstream. The bridge will be 150 feet in length and 30 feet

in width. There will be 2 eleven-foot lanes with 4-foot paved shoulders. Due to the changes in elevation there will be significant road changes to Morwood and Fretz Roads in Salford Township. For more information on this state project please contact PennDot directly at 610-205-6873. 

Stormwater & You!

The Township's program to place decals on the tops of neighborhood concrete storm water collection inlets is progressing quickly thanks to the help of many volunteer individuals and organizations. The decal shows a Trout and serves to remind residents that whatever enters these inlets eventually finds its way into our waterways where it can be of adverse impact. As we noted in a previous FrancTalk excess lawn fertilizer, dumping of used motor oil, gasoline spills, detergents from car washing, and even pet wastes, all wash or are deposited into the township's storm sewer system where it drains into our local streams, rivers, lakes and bays, denying us all the opportunities for many types of recreation that would be otherwise possible. These impacts are cumulative such that Franconia's storm water pollutants impact not just our local fishing and swimming but also eventually add to downstream communities discharges to impact the Neshaminy Creek, Skippack Creek, East Branch of the Perkiomen, the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers and eventually Delaware Bay.

Public Education is but one facet of this multi-year program from the State and Federal Environmental Agencies, both part of the Federal Phase II NPDES Storm Water Permitting Program. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, as the designated permitting agency for this Federal Program under the Environmental Protection Agency, requires in federally defined urban areas that communities' storm water discharges be permitted. For Franconia, and most

of the surrounding municipalities in middle and lower Montgomery, Bucks and Chester Counties, this permit is known as a NPDES-MS4 Stormwater Permit, which stands for National Pollution Discharge Elimination System - Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems. Other NPDES permits are issued to Industrial dischargers, Construction Operations involving earth disturbance as well as older Combined Storm and Sanitary Systems within many cities. Our Waste-Water Treatment Plants have long been required to permit their discharges under the Clean Water Act's NPDES program going back to the 1960's. This Storm Water program is a more recent expansion of the CWA by Congress and as it develops and is applied will have significant impacts on local municipal public works and municipal authority budgets.

Franconia Township is now in year six of the current Department of Environmental Protection General Permit Protocol for MS4s. Normally issued in 5 year increments, but delayed one year by DEP for implementation review, we expect the requirements for the next period to be published sometime in the later spring or early summer in the Pennsylvania Bulletin, the State's official rule making publication (PACODE.COM). The increasing responsibilities towards meeting the goals of the program will be a significant increase in scope over the previous protocol, including more specific requirements of actual storm water treatment and scientific monitoring of progress towards the goals of the Clean Water Act as defined by these agencies.

A RECYCLING REMINDER FROM THE NORTHERN MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLING COMMISSION



What & How to Recycle

Aluminum, Steel & Bimetal Cans

All metal food, beverage and aerosol cans are recyclable. All other metal items such as, pots and pans, wire hangers are not recyclable. No lids or covers, just cans. Rinse out and crush aluminum cans if possible.

Glass - Clear, Amber & Green Glass

All glass food, beverage bottles and jars are recyclable. No lids or covers

Plastics Number 1 & 2 (HDPE & PETE)

Look for the number in the triangle on the bottom of plastic items. No lids, rinse out containers.

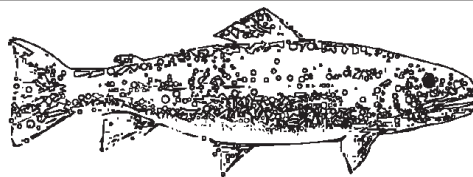
Newspapers, Magazines & Junk Mail

Tie in a bundle or place in a paper bag (Not in Plastic Bags)

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

These rules, as being in development over the past several years by the Environmental Protection Agency and DEP, including some limited ability to comment by local municipalities of our collective concerns will require the Township to move forward towards additional programs for compliance, and hopefully a cleaner watershed environment. 🌱

DUMP NO WASTE



DRAINS TO WATERWAYS

MADE IN USA

Land Development/Subdivisions

The following land developments /subdivisions have received final approval:

- **Rittenhouse Minor Subdivision:**
1-lot residential subdivision - Indian Creek Road & Godshall Road
- **Synatek Land Development:**
Ken Clemmer, 1-lot industrial land development - Schoolhouse Road

The following land developments have received preliminary approval:

- **MCC Resource Center Subdivision/ Land Development:** *Mennonite Foundation, 2-lot industrial subdivision; 1-lot land development - Souder Road*
- **Souderton Self Storage:** *Limerick Properties, 1-lot limited industrial land development - Allentown Road & Souder Road*

The Following land developments/ subdivisions are currently under review by the Planning Commission:

- **Todd Walker Subdivision:**
Todd Walker, 5-lot subdivision - Mininger Road
- **Ken Taggart Subdivision:** *Ken Taggart, 7-lot subdivision - Cowpath Road*
- **The Church of the Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints:** *Church of Latter Day Saints, construction of new sanctuary and associated parking - Route 113 & Maple Avenue*
- **Martin Subdivision:** *Andrew & Elizabeth Martin, 3-lot subdivision - Church Road*
- **Greystone Organization Land Development:** *Piero Corrado, industrial land development flex space building - Schoolhouse Road*
- **Leidy's Church Land Development:**

FRANCONIA TOWNSHIP
671 Allentown Road, P.O. Box 128
Franconia PA 18924
(215) 723-1137
www.franconiatownship.org

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Steven P. Barndt, *Chairman*
Grey R. Godshall, *1st Vice Chairman*
W. Keith Freed, *2nd Vice Chairman*
Drew Darrah
Curtis N. Kratz

TOWNSHIP MANAGER
Kevin D. Bayer

POLICE DEPARTMENT
Administration (215) 723-6777
Emergency 9-1-1 or (215) 723-6777

Joseph S. Kozeniewski, *Chief*
Jeffrey C. Gower, *Sergeant / Patrol*
David A. Klepfer, *D.A.R.E. / School Resource Officer*

BUILDING / PLUMBING INSPECTION
(215) 723-1137
Roger M. Koffel, *Code Enforcement Officer*
Jerry Rittenhouse, *Building Inspector / Code Enforcement Officer*

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT
(215) 723-1153
Paul R. Nice, *Public Works Director*

Leidy's Church, new church and recreational areas - Leidy Road & W. Cherry Lane 

Eagle Scout Projects

Two local boy scouts completed their Eagle Scout Projects at Chestnut Grove Park in Franconia Township. With assistance from volunteers that each boy mobilized and additional help from the Franconia Township Public Works Department and Parks and Recreation Board the projects were successfully completed. Dan Bevil constructed the wooden gazebo and Sam Schwyter reconstructed the two flower beds (both pictured at right). On behalf of Franconia Township we congratulate both scouts for completing their projects and obtaining their Eagle Scout Status.



Franconia Township
671 Allentown Road
P.O. Box 128
Franconia PA 18924



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