



4th Ward Newsletter

From Commissioner Dan Siegel

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Summer 2009

Visit www.4haverford.com or send an email to dansiegel@4haverford.com to sign up for Commissioner Siegel's email newsletter and receive up to the minute news about Haverford Township and the 4th Ward.

Haverford Township 4th Ward *On The Move*

PADDOCK PARK IMPROVEMENTS

In cooperation with the Paddock Farms Civic Association and the Recreation Department, improvements are in the works for Paddock Park, including new picnic tables, benches, and play equipment (a spinner and a carousel). In addition, the Civic Association is looking into the cost for a sign to identify the park. The equipment will be ordered shortly, with the goal of installing it in the fall. Long term plans for the Park include addressing storm water management issues and re-grading of the ball fields.

In response to residents' requests, a park program was initiated this summer. Although posted signs state that the Park is closed during the program, the Recreation Department assures me that you are welcome to use the facilities. However, for insurance and liability reasons, the Recreation Department must separate the children who are registered for the program from those who are just visiting the park. If you have any questions please speak to the Site Leader, Jon Turner, who will be glad to answer any questions you may have.

MORE 4TH WARD NEWS & OTHER INFORMATION AVAILABLE ONLINE

To reduce printing and postage costs, this Newsletter is 4 pages; additional content is available at my website.

DARBY & MARPLE ROADS CONSTRUCTION POSTPONED RECONSTRUCTION

The Township has received a request from the Haverford Reserve developer to postpone the reconstruction at the intersection of Darby and Marple Roads. This work had been scheduled to begin July 6. Construction design modifications, coupled with the present detour of Coopertown Road as the result of the water main installations, made the targeted completion date impractical.

As a result, reconstruction of the intersection has been rescheduled to June 1 through September 3, 2010. Naturally, an effort will be made to avoid conflicts with other detours and to provide as much advanced notice of the detour as possible.

Commissioners News

ANTI-SOLICITING ORDINANCE

The Board of Commissioners has approved a completely revised soliciting and Peddling Ordinance. Drafted by Commissioner Siegel, the new ordinance creates a Township-managed “Do Not Solicit” list and prohibits soliciting and peddling at any residence or property that posts a “No Soliciting” sign. The ordinance also restricts the hours when persons may solicit, and increases the penalties for violations of the law.

DARTMOUTH LANE RESTRICTIONS

In cooperation with the residents of Dartmouth Lane, the Commissioners have approved restrictions prohibiting right turns off of Darby Road onto Dartmouth Lane from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, and prohibiting left turns off of Ardmore Avenue onto Dartmouth Lane from 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. weekdays. I am pleased to have worked with the residents of Dartmouth Lane on this new law.

TRAFFIC, TRAFFIC & MORE TRAFFIC

I am aware of the traffic problems that plague the Township. If you have a traffic problem, please contact me. I have worked with the Police Department to install stop signs, impose turning restrictions, and to utilize “enhanced enforcement” on other streets, and will do whatever I can to assist 4th Ward residents to limit unwanted traffic and assure that our streets are safe for our children.

REMEMBER: DO YOUR PART

Please do your part as well. Obey the posted speed limits so that our Township is safer for everyone, including pedestrians and school students. Thank you!

Open Government

All residents are entitled to know as much as possible about the Township. That is why I:

- Post all Township documents, including meeting agendas and minutes, *all non-confidential financial documents, and other documents, on my website*
- Respond to all phone calls and emails
- Meet with local residents and community groups (just ask!)
- Knock on doors and introduce myself – *My goal is to visit every home in the Ward every year*
- Listen to *your* suggestions, comments and criticisms

If you need information, have a question, or want to let me know what you are thinking, just give me a call at (610) 446-1117 or send an email to dansiegel@4haverford.com.

Bubble Gum Factory Update

Condemnation Status

On March 31, 2009, the Township began condemnation proceedings of the former bubble gum factory on Eagle Road. In response, the owners tendered possession and requested payment of “estimated just compensation,” which the Township tendered. Although litigation continues, the Township now “owns” the property.

YMCA Update

At the July 13, 2009 Commissioners meeting, the Board authorized the Township Manager, in conjunction with the Township’s counsel, to enter into negotiations with the YMCA of Philadelphia and Vicinity for a long-term lease for the property. The YMCA’s plans call for a 50,000 to 70,000 square foot facility with two swimming pools, a double gymnasium, fitness center, community rooms, child watch area, locker rooms and ancillary support space.

A Message from the Township Manager



I have a number of exciting new projects to announce:

- The Township will receive a \$1 million dollar H2O Grant from the Commonwealth for Flood Control Improvements on the 2400 block of Wynnefield Drive. This grant is essential to make immediate and vital repairs to the existing lined channel of Cobbs Creek. The Township Engineers, Pennoni Associates, were instrumental in helping to obtain the grant. We hope to start this project in the very near future to avoid further deterioration of the channel.
- Haverford and Marple Townships are one step closer to implementing a cooperative composting program, benefiting the residents of both communities. An application was submitted to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection to authorize the use of the composting system, and we are awaiting final approval. This new program will reduce the Township's leaf collection costs by over \$100,000 per year and will create free mulch that our residents can use for their gardens. I am extremely excited about the many benefits this new program will create. I also recognize the concerns of some residents, and am working with Commissioner Siegel to assure a smooth transition to this new program.
- The Board of Commissioners awarded a \$255,000 contract to JFC Contractors Inc., for 2.10 miles of roadway milling and resurfacing, including one stretch of Paddock Road in the 4th Ward. We hope to expand the program next year, depending upon the Township's finances.
- The Police and Public Works Departments are currently working on the implementation of traffic calming measures throughout the Township to enhance traffic safety.

If you have any questions, please feel free to drop by the Township Building or give us a call at (610) 446-1000.

Larry Gentile

Township Manager

Billboards Update

The latest Zoning Hearing Board public hearing on the challenge by the Bartkowski Group (also known as "BIG") to the constitutionality of the Township's ordinance prohibiting construction of billboards was held on Thursday, July 16, 2009, at 7:30 p.m., at Lynnewood Elementary School. I will notify you of future hearings on my website and in my newsletters.

BIG wants to erect five two-sided, 672 square foot billboards, with heights between 52 and 77 feet. Residents are invited to attend and be heard on this matter.

I wholeheartedly support the ban on billboards and thank all of the residents who have contacted me to express their opposition to the proposal. Rest assured that the Commissioners intend to fight this challenge every way possible.

Commissioner Dan Siegel

Contact

Haverford Township

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Phone: (610) 446-1000

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Website: www.haverfordtownship.com

4th Ward Commissioner Dan Siegel

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Haverford Township Free Library

Phone: (610) 446-3082

Website: www.haverfordlibrary.org

Haverford Township School District

Phone: (610) 853-5900

Website: haverford.k12.pa.us

Township Meeting Dates

Unless noted, all meetings are held monthly in the Commissioners' Meeting Room in the Quatrani Bldg. behind the Township Building, 2325 Darby Road

Board of Commissioners: 2nd Monday, 7:30 p.m.

Zoning Hearing Board: 1st & 3rd Thursday, 7:45 p.m.

Planning Commission: 2nd & 4th Thursday, 7:30 p.m.

Free Notary for 4th Ward Residents

Commissioner Dan Siegel is a notary and offers free notary services for 4th Ward residents at his law office at 66 West Eagle Road, Havertown. Just call (610) 446-3457; **an appointment is required.**

The person whose signature is to be notarized must sign the document in person in the presence of the notary, and must provide proof of identity, such as a valid driver's license, photo ID card or passport. Please advise if witnesses are necessary. There is also a five document/signature limit.