

## Public Service Announcement Primary Election Day

**When:** Tuesday, July 7, 2020

**Where:** Sergeantsville Volunteer Fire Company

**Time:** 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**Terms Expiring:**

12/31/20: Charles Herman and Susan Lockwood

**Local Vacancies:** Two Township Committee positions

**Township Committee Primary Election Candidates:**

Republican: Charles Herman, Chad Bower, and Alan Johnson

Democrat: Susan Lockwood

Due to the rapidly changing COVID-19 situation, the Hunterdon County Clerk's Office will be closed to the public, with limited exceptions, until further notice. Essential County Clerk employees will report to work and will be available by phone and email. Our core work hours will be Monday-Friday, 8am-3:00pm.

All walk-in services are temporarily suspended. For hand deliveries, including Vote by Mail applications and other inquiries, contact the County Clerk's Office [countyclerk@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:countyclerk@co.hunterdon.nj.us) or (908) 788-1214 or contact the Deputy Clerk at (908) 788-1378 or via email [lmena@co.hunterdon.nj.us](mailto:lmena@co.hunterdon.nj.us)

Visit [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/countyclerk.htm](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/countyclerk.htm) for the latest information regarding the Primary Election or to request a Vote by Mail Ballot.

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## Message from the Editor

We hope this Newsletter finds you and your families safe and healthy. When the Newsletter Committee began to compile this edition of the Bridge, it was early April and everything was locked down to slow the spread of the corona virus. We decided to go ahead for several reason: some events have been rescheduled and we wanted to get that information out to you; the Hunterdon County Print Shop reopened and agreed to assist us by printing and distributing the newsletter as usual; and we hoped that providing this Newsletter to our residents on time might be one small step forward in the path to returning to our new normal.

That said, we did the best we could with the information provided and the dates we were given. However, we don't know what the future will hold, so please double check before heading out to an event by calling the contact or Township, or by checking the Township or County website. Thank you.

— Susan Lockwood

## Annual School Election

The deadline to file petitions to run in school board election is 4pm July 27. The School Board Election is also scheduled for November 3, 2020.

## Dilts Park is Open

The Township Committee allowed Dilts Farm Park to remain open throughout the corona virus lockdown. However, the common areas (pavilion, basketball and tennis courts, restrooms, and playgrounds) have been fenced off and are not available for use.

Please note that all Park rules remain in effect including the requirement to keep your dogs leashed when you are visiting the park.

In addition, we have posted signs throughout the park reminding you to please maintain social distancing as you enjoy the park.

Dilts Park is big enough for everyone. Please be considerate of your neighbors as you enjoy our beautiful park. Thank you.

## Meet Your Neighbor: Pegeen Lanahan

by Sally Gullette

Most people have an interesting story to tell. Talk to Pegeen Lanahan, and you will find her life story is quite fascinating.

Pegeen has worn many hats - as a self-taught woodworker who has used those skills to build furniture and remodel her home and as a professional who among other things started a successful marketing consulting and graphic design company. She was also the first woman in NJ to be certified in optical fiber installation. Later, she became a certified transcranial magnetic stimulation technician working directly with patients and side-by-side with her husband in his psychiatry practice.

At the end of a college semester spent in Ireland, a needed repair on a broken suitcase zipper sent her into Dublin. It was a Friday afternoon and she walked right into the middle of the only IRA bombing to take place on southern Ireland soil. The experience still haunts her. She was not injured but was in the midst of panicked and somewhat bloody mayhem. On a lighter note, when newly graduated, she worked for a "personal micro" computer company, an industry so new, the contact she called for orders and shipping problems was actually Steve Jobs. She likes to mention her other brush with fame: Bruce Springsteen played at her ninth grade graduation dance!

Pegeen and her husband, Dr. Luciano Lizzi, moved to Delaware Township from Ketchikan, Alaska in 2016 when he accepted a job with Capital Heath. They knew they were home when they saw the house in town. An old stone fireplace in the living room and a small pond on the property added to its appeal.

The fireplace and the pond have a place in Delaware Township history. In 1940, Fred Vocke's father built the pond at three times its current size as a place for people to ice skate. He added a warm-up shack by building a fireplace with local stone in an old chicken coop near the pond. Between 1940 and 1945 it became an ice skating mecca and people reportedly came from far and near to skate there. Sometime later in the 1940s the property was sold and the new owner filled in part of the pond and built a house, incorporating into it the stone fireplace and the surrounding stone wall. A subsequent owner tore down the old house and built a new one in its place, keeping the original stone fireplace and wall. This is the home that Pegeen and Luciano fell in love with.

Pegeen volunteers with Better Community Housing in Trenton, a Catholic Organization that builds housing for the very poor who cannot qualify for traditional low-income housing. Here she puts to good use the extensive construction experience she garnered during her many years as an IBEW contractor in northern NJ.

Pegeen and Luciano share their home with a dog and two cats. Between them they have four grown children. Another daughter, Sophia, died a tragic death in 1992 at the age of 2 1/2. As most folks do, they have grown to love Delaware Township.

### Hunterdon County Library News

The Hunterdon County Library (HCL) has many resources that can be accessed from home. These include:

**Tumblebooks:** TumbleBooks' databases are easy to use and feature unlimited access from home! You can read as many books as you want, when you want, and on any device. There are no check-outs, holds, or bulky downloads. Books are available instantly. Tumblebooks offers for all ages audiobooks, K-6 math resources, and more.

**Consumer Reports Online:** The library now offers Consumer Reports Online. Whether you are looking to find the best deal on an LCD TV or researching the top-recommended used vehicle, Consumer Reports provides ratings and reviews, recommendations and buying advice for thousands of products and services. Access is available within Headquarters, North County Branch, and South County Branch libraries. Also available from home with your Hunterdon County library card.

**Hunterdon Happenings Newsletter:** The Hunterdon County Library offers concerts, movies, lectures, and much more...all free to the public. The best way to stay in the know about upcoming events is the online newsletter, Hunterdon Happenings. Sign up today by visiting the website and click on the sign-up now button.

Don't currently have a library card? You can apply for a digital card at the following web address to access ebooks, databases, and electronic resources, or pre-register for a card, then come in to any of our branches to finish the process: <http://hclibrary.us/services/ehcl.htm>

Don't miss out on all the things a library card can offer!

Check out our website: [www.hclibrary.us](http://www.hclibrary.us)  
or Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/HunterdonCountyLibrary/>

or Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/hclibrary3/>, and YouTube pages for upcoming events and programs, as well as links to past performances, storytimes, and more!

## Solutions to Stormwater Pollution: Easy Things You Can Do Every Day to Protect our Water

**P**ollution on streets, parking lots and lawns is washed by rain into storm drains, then directly to our drinking water supplies and the ocean and lakes our children play in. Fertilizer, oil, pesticides, detergents, pet waste, grass clippings--you name it, and it ends up in our water. Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean and plentiful water.

By sharing the responsibility and making small, easy changes in our daily lives, we can keep common pollutants out of stormwater. It all adds up to cleaner water, and it saves the high cost of cleaning up once it's dirty.

As part of New Jersey's initiative to keep our water clean and plentiful and to meet federal requirements, many municipalities and other public agencies including colleges and military bases must adopt ordinances or other rules prohibiting various activities that contribute to stormwater pollution. Breaking these rules can result in fines or other penalties. As a resident, business or other member of the New Jersey community, you can do these easy things every day to protect our water.

### **Limit your Use of Fertilizers and Pesticides:**

Do a soil test to see if you need a fertilizer. Do not apply fertilizers if heavy rain is predicted. Look into alternatives for pesticides. Maintain a small lawn and keep the rest of your property or yard in a natural state with trees and other native vegetation that requires little or no fertilizer. If you use fertilizers and pesticides, follow the instructions on the label on how to apply it correctly.

**Properly Use and Dispose of Hazardous Products** including some household or commercial cleaning products, lawn and garden care products, motor oil, anti-freeze, and paints: Do not pour any hazardous products down a storm drain because storm drains are usually connected to local waterbodies, and the water is not treated. If you have hazardous products in your home or workplace, make sure you store or dispose of them properly. Read the label for guidance. Use natural or less toxic alternatives when possible. Recycle used motor oil. Contact your municipality, county or facility management office for the locations of hazardous-waste disposal facilities.

**Keep Pollution out of Storm Drains:** Municipalities and many other public agencies are required to mark certain storm drain inlets with messages reminding people that storm drains are connected to local waterbodies. Do not let sewage or other wastes flow into a stormwater system.

**Clean Up After Your Pet:** Many municipalities and public agencies enact and enforce local pet waste rules including requiring pet owners or their keepers to pick up and properly dispose of pet waste dropped on public or other people's property. Make sure you know

## Clean Water

**I**f your car leaks oil in the driveway, you might as well let it leak in the ocean. Rain washes pollutants into storm drains which flows directly into our streams, lakes, rivers and the ocean. So what can you do?

You can help! Keep your car well maintained. Regularly check your car for leaks and schedule tune-ups. If you find leaks or drips, have your car repaired. Take your car to a service center to the change oil. If you do change your own oil, do it in a garage, never on the street. Use a self-contained oil pan and discard the oil at a local service center for recycling.

Never discard oil, gas, or antifreeze into a storm drain. If you spill hazardous fluids, contain it immediately with rags and cat litter. Clean up the spill and properly dispose of the waste.

What's the problem with motor oil? Oil does not dissolve in water. When motor oil runs into storm drains either from changing your car's oil or from leaky cars, it goes directly to our lakes, rivers and the ocean. Oil and other petroleum products are toxic and can contaminate your drinking water, as well as kill fish, wildlife and plants. Did you know that one pint of oil can make a slick larger than a football field?

Used motor oil is the largest single source of all oil pollution in lakes, streams and rivers. Americans spill 180 million gallons of used oil each year into our waters.

Why should you care about clean water? Stormwater pollution is one of the greatest threats to New Jersey's clean water supply. Clean water provides access to safe drinking water, a place for recreation, commercial opportunities, healthy wildlife habitats, and adds beauty to our landscape. Rain washes pollution from streets, parking lots, and lawns into storm drains, then directly into streams, rivers, lakes and the ocean.

Visit [www.cleanwaterNJ.org](http://www.cleanwaterNJ.org) for more information.

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and comply with your town's requirements. And remember to use newspaper, bags or pooper-scoopers to pick up wastes. Dispose of the wrapped pet waste in the trash. Never discard pet waste in a storm drain.

**Don't Feed Wildlife**, such as ducks and geese, in public areas. Many municipalities and other public agencies enact and enforce rules that prohibit feeding wildlife in public areas.

**Don't Litter:** Place litter in trash receptacles. Recycle. Participate in community cleanups.

**Dispose of Yard Waste Properly:** Keep leaves and grass out of storm drains. If your municipality or agency has yard waste collection rules, follow them. Use leaves and grass clippings for compost. Use a mulching mower that recycles grass clippings into the lawn. For more information on stormwater related topics, visit [www.njstormwater.org](http://www.njstormwater.org) or [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov).

## Locktown Stone Church and How Locktown Came to Be

Did you know that the Locktown Stone Church recently celebrated its 200th birthday? Though it has not been a religious structure for some time, this beautiful building with marvelous acoustics has an interesting history, and is a shining example of the federal architectural style used in the early 19th century Old School meeting houses in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Now owned by Delaware Township, and lovingly cared for by the Friends of Locktown Stone Church, it is used for weddings and other celebrations. It is on the list of Registered Historical Properties. It is also the source of how the village of Locktown got its name.

History tells us that in 1819, Daniel Rittenhouse offered an Old School Baptist Church congregation a half-acre of land on his holdings on which to build a stone meeting house to replace the old log building that was there. The building was quickly constructed, and was finished by October 16, 1819. The first service was held on that day in the building.

In the 1830's there was a great deal of religious fervor sweeping the country. Known as the 'Great Awakening,' the movement encouraged those who followed religion to embrace a progressive school of thought to open the idea of religion to more people.

Elder Wigg, who was the preacher at the church at the time, liked this more liberal idea of religious thought. But most of his congregation preferred the Old School doctrines and practices. There was some controversy, and the upshot was that Elder Wigg was dismissed as preacher.

But Elder Wigg was not without supporters. Some time later, he and 45 followers, including Daniel Rittenhouse, who had donated the land, went to the church with the intention of sharing its use with the Old School Baptist congregation. They found the doors locked. Undoubtedly shocked and upset, tradition says that Wigg and 'one of his followers' put another lock on the door to keep the Old Schoolers out.

It isn't clear how the church followers eventually resolved their differences. But we do know that there was a tavern near the church. The tavern-keeper, Benjamin Hyde, was a relative of Daniel Rittenhouse. Hyde was allegedly intrigued by the two locks on the church, so much so that he ended up making a sign for his 'Locktown' tavern which had three locks on it.

By the time the post office was established in 1846 and required that each town and village have a formal name, 'Locktown' was the name given and known by all.

*Adapted from article by Marfy Goodspeed and Mildred Wehr at: [locktownstonechurch.org](http://locktownstonechurch.org)*

## Locktown Stone Church Restroom Facilities

The Friends of the Locktown Stone Church are in the process of getting State approvals to construct restroom facilities on the church property. For many years, the Friends have explored various options for bathrooms including composting toilets (which were not suited for this type of use) because for some events, port-a-potties are not ideal.

Because of the location of the church near a stream, permits are required from the Department of Environmental Protection in order to undertake this project. The permit application was submitted and was under review when the Covid 19 threat caused the State to transition to working from home. The Friends hope to get an answer on their application at some point this year.

## Pipeline Update

Since our last newsletter, the Township Committee sent a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) opposing the latest iteration of the PennEast Pipeline project.

After the Court declared that PennEast could not use eminent domain on State properties in New Jersey, PennEast decided to split its application into two phases and re-applied to FERC for the portion of the pipeline to be built in Pennsylvania.

It was important for Delaware Township to join others New Jersey concerned citizens and communities to object for several reasons. First, the purpose and need for the original project clearly stated that the need was for the entire project. So to now claim otherwise, was disingenuous at best. Second, if FERC allows construction to begin in Pennsylvania, and the pipeline ends on New Jersey's border, it makes it far more difficult to discuss any better, or less damaging alternative routes.

The good news is that FERC rejected PennEast's new application and requested significant additional information in support of the latest project. This is the first time that FERC has rejected anything submitted by PennEast.

## Shredder Day: June 27

On June 27, from 8am to 11am at the Delaware Township garage on Rte 523, just south of the blinker light, the Township is sponsoring a shredder day for township residents. Limit: 10 boxes per vehicle.

No appointment necessary, just remain in your car and your boxes will be removed from your trunk by staff. NO need to removed staples, paperclips, or small fasteners. For info: call Kathy Klink 609-397-3240 x208.

## Household Clean Up Day: June 20, 2020

Wondering what to do with that old window air conditioner which no longer works? Well, Delaware Township clean-up days are coming from 8:00 - 11:30am at the Delaware Twp Garage at 816 Sergeantsville Road (Rt. 523). During the three weeks before each clean-up day, 75 permits will be issued at the Township Police Station. Registration must be in-person (no mail-in). Proof of residency (eg driver's license; current tax bill, or voter registration card) must be provided at the time of registration. Also required is the license plate number of the vehicle being used to carry the clean-up. Current permit fees run from \$10-\$30 depending upon size of the vehicle.

This permit must be presented before unloading. Unloading will be performed by Township personnel. **STAY IN YOUR CAR!**

Items ACCEPTED include but are not limited to: Air conditioners, dehumidifiers, refrigerators (with or without freon), propane tanks, all types of metals, building materials limited to one half of a standard pick-up truck load (may not exceed four feet in length), electronic equipment, and up to 10 tires without rims.

Items NOT ACCEPTED include: Household garbage, animal carcasses, stumps, trees, plant debris, yard or landscaping debris (including leaves), Hazardous wastes (i.e. gasoline, chemicals, explosives, etc.) and paint (check county website for the disposal dates of these items at [www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/recycling](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/recycling) or call Solid Waste and Recycling at 908-788-1110).

Participants must register with Dee Higgins at the Township Police Station. For info: 609-397-3530; her hours are 9:00am - 3:00pm Monday through Friday.

## Meals on Wheels: Senior Programs

**H**ome Delivered Nutrition: Meals on Wheels delivers a noon-time meal and an assurance check each weekday between the hours of 11 am to 1 pm to home-bound seniors. Our Weekend Home Delivered Program offers cold bag lunches which are delivered on Friday for weekend consumption.

For those who are more independent and would like to eat with others, meals are served Monday through Friday between 11:45 am and 1 pm at the following congregate locations: Church of the Holy Spirit, 3 Haytown Road, Lebanon and Flemington Café, 4 Gauntt Place, Flemington. Educational and recreational programming is included.

Meals on Wheels also provides the Lunch N Learn Series, an educational program in which seniors discuss healthy eating with a Registered Dietitian while enjoying a meal. Seniors can also obtain individualized nutrition advice and guidance on specific diet or healthy eating plans designed by a Registered Dietitian.

To register for programs call 908-284-0735. Visit our website: [www.mowih.org](http://www.mowih.org) or on [facebook.com/mealsonwheelsinhunterdon](https://www.facebook.com/mealsonwheelsinhunterdon).

### Meals on Wheels: Volunteers Needed

No matter what your background or interests, Meals on Wheels has a volunteer opportunity that's just right for you. Volunteer drivers are needed to deliver meals to their homebound neighbors. Site volunteers at Nutrition Sites help pack meals and assist drivers as they prepare for their routes. Join us today – call the main office for more information – 908-284-0735.

## Covid Testing for Hunterdon County Residents

**S**omerset County and Hunterdon County, in collaboration with Raritan Valley Community College, conducted COVID-19 drive-thru testing in May. Additional dates will be offered based on availability of test kits and personal protective equipment.

Testing is by appointment only and a valid doctor's prescription is required. Anyone without an appointment will be turned away. The testing site location is Raritan Valley Community College, 118 Lamington Road in Branchburg. Entrance to the testing site will be from the Rt. 22 Campus Drive entrance and NOT from the Lamington Road entrance.

Testing is free of charge and only available to Hunterdon and Somerset County residents, age five (5) and older, who are exhibiting symptoms, such as fever, dry cough and shortness of breath. At the test site,

individuals must have a written doctor's authorization and show proof of residency, such as a valid driver's license or state-issued identification.

The Somerset Hunterdon County COVID-19 drive-thru testing information line is available to answer general questions about the site M-F from 9am-4pm. The number is 908-237-7150.

Where can I go to learn more about COVID-19?  
**Somerset County Department of Health:**  
[www.co.somerset.nj.us/health](http://www.co.somerset.nj.us/health)

**Hunterdon County Health Department:**  
[www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html](http://www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/coronavirus.html)

**Centers for Disease Control /Prevention:** [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

**New Jersey Department of Health:** [www.nj.gov/health/](http://www.nj.gov/health/)

## Community Calendar

**NOTE: From March through May, meetings were either postponed or conducted remotely using Zoom Meetings. As of now, we do not know when in-person meetings will resume.**

**To find out if a meeting will be held and/or to obtain access to any Zoom meeting, contact the Chairman of the relevant committee or call the Township for information and instructions.**

**Township Committee:** 7:30 p.m. 2nd & last Monday - 6/8, 6/29, 7/13, 7/27, 8/10, 8/31

**Planning Board:** 7:30 p.m. 1st Tuesday - 6/2, 7/7, 8/4, 9/1

**Board of Health:** 7:30 p.m. 1st Monday - 6/1, 7/6, 8/3, 9/7

**Open Space Committee:** 7:30 p.m. 3rd Monday - 6/15, 7/20, 8/17

**Agricultural Advisory Committee:** 7:00 p.m. 1st Tuesday - 6/2, 7/7, 8/4, 9/1

**Board of Adjustment:** 7:30 p.m. 2nd Thursday - 6/11, 7/9, 8/13

**Recreation Commission:** 7:30 p.m. 1st Monday - 6/1, 7/6, 8/3, 9/8

**Environmental Commission:** 7:30 p.m. 3rd Wednesday - 6/17, 7/15, 8/19

**D.T.M.U.A.:** 7:30 p.m. 1st Thursday - 6/4, 7/2, 8/6, 9/3

**Shade Tree Commission:** 7:30 p.m. 4th Thursday - 6/25, 7/23, 8/27

**Historic Advisory Committee:** 7:30 p.m. 2nd Wednesday - 6/10, 7/8, 8/12

**Newsletter Committee:** Quarterly

**Recycling Depot:** Open every weekday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Township Garage on Rt. 523. Call Recycling Coordinator Kathy Klink at 609-397-3240 Ext. 208 with any questions.

### HCHS Online Archive

The Hunterdon County Historical Society now offers an exhaustive photographic record of HCHS' Deats/Thatcher collection of Native American artifacts online for all to enjoy. Dr. Greg Herman, with help from Mark Zdepski and Roger Stone and facilitated by former HCHS Executive Director Pat Millen, photographed the thousands of items within the cabinets housed on the second floor of the Flemington Library and in the Archive. Visit [www.hunterdonhistory.org](http://www.hunterdonhistory.org) for photos and supporting material.

### The Great Crate Race

The Delaware Township Recreation Commission plans to hold The Great Crate Race on Wednesday July 4, 2020, beginning at 9am.

Start thinking about dusting off your car or building a new one! If you are looking to purchase a car to participate in the event this year or looking to sell a car please contact us. This year celebrates the 32nd anniversary of this great Township tradition.

July will be here before you know it so plan on participating/attending this fun-filled community tradition. Registration forms and details can be found on the Township website [www.delawaretp.org](http://www.delawaretp.org)

If you have any questions please contact Kathleen Herman: [kah7999@hotmail.com](mailto:kah7999@hotmail.com) or 908-399-4164 ; or Steve Smotrich: [stevesmotrich@gmail.com](mailto:stevesmotrich@gmail.com) or 908-255-5358.

### Electric Aggregation Update

As previously reported, Delaware Township residents, with the exception of those opting out, are now obtaining their electricity from a third-party provider, IDT Energy Inc. The rate provided is moderately lower than the cost that JCP&L is charging for energy generation. The JCP&L rate is 0.090743 per kilowatt-hour (kWh), and the Township's rate is 0.0863 per kWh for a savings of about 5%. Of course, your specific amount of savings depends upon how much electricity your household uses.

As a reminder, the Township joined the Hunterdon Area Energy Cooperative (HAEC) and obtained a rate that was already in effect in several other Townships. Because that agreement ends at the end of this year, the HAEC will again be going out to auction for electricity in June. Ideally, a new agreement will be in place once the old one expires.

However, if the auction does not result in a rate reduction, no award will be made and the HAEC will wait until the market is more favorable. If the auction is successful, residents will again be notified of the energy provider at that time.

What do you need to do? Nothing. All of this occurs behind the scenes unless you choose to opt out and to go back to paying whatever rate JCP&L is providing. Also, please don't be fooled or confused by those calls and letters inviting you to choose a third party electricity provider. The company that we are using -- IDT Energy -- will NOT be soliciting for your business.

If you have any questions, see the web site [www.njaggregation.us/HAEC](http://www.njaggregation.us/HAEC) or call 877-292-3904.

**All meetings are at Town Hall unless otherwise noted.**

## Church Corner

*Check with the churches for all services and tele-services.*

### Amwell Church of the Brethren

40 Sandbrook Headquarters Rd, Stockton, NJ

Tel: 908-705-1208

Web: [www.amwell.org](http://www.amwell.org)

Sunday school: 9:15 am

Worship Service: 10:15 am

Wed night Bible study: 7:00 pm

Friday night youth group: 7:00 pm

We are currently doing telephone worship services and Wednesday night bible study. Call 908-581-8341 for more information and to be signed up.

### Cornerstone Christian Church

226 Locktown-Sergeantsville Rd, Stockton, NJ

Tel: 908-237-5227

Web: [www.ccc-hc.org](http://www.ccc-hc.org)

Email: [pastor-keith@ccc.hc.org](mailto:pastor-keith@ccc.hc.org)

Sunday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School for all ages beginning at 9:15 a.m.

### Sandy Ridge Church

47 Sandy Ridge Road Stockton NJ 08559

Tel: 609-397-0371

Email: [sandyridgechurchnj@gmail.com](mailto:sandyridgechurchnj@gmail.com)

Facebook: Sandy Ridge Community American Baptist Church

Web: <https://sandyridgechurch.wixsite.com/srbc>

Worship: Sunday mornings 11:00am

Sunday School: Sunday mornings 11:00am

### Sergeantsville United Methodist Church

624 Rosemont Ringoes Rd., Stockton, NJ

Tel: (609) 397-2333

Web: [www.sergeantsvilleumc.com](http://www.sergeantsvilleumc.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sergeantsvilleumc>

Sergeantsville United Methodist Church worships each Sunday at 10:00 a.m. All are welcome to join us for worship or at one of our special activities.

The following information on caring for your trees was provided by the New Jersey Forest Service. For more information go to [www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests](http://www.nj.gov/dep/parksandforests). The site also provides guidance on pruning which is not included here because it should be done in the winter, when the tree is dormant.

**Mulch:** The right mulch helps retain water in the soil for tree roots. However, mulch should never be piled up against the tree trunk. Mulching in a “volcano” shape can make the tree more susceptible to fungus, insects, and

## 2020 Township Budget Approved

Delaware Township adopted its budget in April. When the Finance Subcommittee began the budgeting process in early March with Township Chief Financial Officer Diane McDaniel, no one was aware of the severity of the effect of the corona virus on the economy. As the process continued, it became apparent that we needed to consider the potential effects on our residents. The result is that the final budget is flat: there will be no increase to residents’ taxes for municipal services. Many costs rise annually, for example, road materials, salaries based on contractual raises, and the cost of insurance.

This year, the Township’s biggest increase was due to the need to make a Debt Service payment on a municipal Note. The Township has three years when it takes a Note, to either purchase a bond or begin to make payments. While we initially hoped to purchase a bond with a lower interest rate and forgo the payment, Covid 19 affected the bond market and made the rates rise. The Township will continue to watch the bond market to see if conditions become more favorable before the next payment is due.

Instead, the Township decided to maintain last year’s appropriations for most line items, postpone the number of roads to be maintained with oil and stone this year, and use some of the Township’s surplus to keep the tax rate unchanged from last year.

The Township maintains a healthy surplus in order to obtain a favorable bond rating. Delaware Township bonds for large-ticket items like dump trucks; vehicles for plowing, mowing, and road maintenance; fire vehicles, and open space, so having a good bond rating is important.

Ms. McDaniel, working with Auditor Bill Colantano determined we could use a portion of the surplus while maintaining our bond rating.

On April 27, 2020, the Township Committee unanimously approved the budget with no increase. The complete budget can be viewed on the Township website.

## Tree Care Tips

rodents. Instead mulch in a “donut” shape. Keep mulch 6 inches from the trunk and mulch out as far as the branches extend above. Keep the mulch 2-4” thick. Every spring, break up old mulch and add new to maintain a 2-4” layer.

**Water:** During drought, sufficiently water trees. Drought stressed trees are more susceptible to pests and diseases.

**Inspect:** Thoroughly inspect trees yearly for insects, diseases, and defects such as cracks and rot. Take action to prevent hazard trees.

**Delaware Township  
 Hunterdon County, NJ  
 Township Hall  
 P.O. Box 500  
 Sergeantsville, NJ 08557**

PRSR STD  
 US POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 PHILLIPSBURG, NJ  
 Permit No. 4

**Word Search: Summertime**

**H**idden in the puzzle are nineteen items and activities associated with summer. Can you find them all? Hint: Words can run vertically, horizontally and diagonally in both directions, and letters can be used more than once.



**Township Contact Information:**

**Phone: 609-397-3240**

**Fax: 609-397-4893**

**Web: [www.DelawareTwpNJ.org](http://www.DelawareTwpNJ.org)**

**The Newsletter Committee**

**Editor:** Susan Lockwood

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**Word Search Words:**

BARBECUE, BATHING SUIT, BEACH BALL, BOATING, CAMP-FIRE, CAMPING, FIREFLIES, FIREWORKS, ICE CREAM, INDEPENDENCE DAY, LEMONADE, OCEAN, PICNIC, SANDCASTLE, SHORTS, SUNSHINE, SUNTAN, SWIMMING, VACATION.

I	U	E	E	L	I	M	G	W	S	E	B	S	S
N	A	B	N	M	L	N	O	K	U	A	M	T	E
D	Y	A	Z	I	I	A	R	K	T	M	I	R	I
E	I	P	E	P	H	O	B	H	R	C	J	O	L
P	N	J	M	J	W	S	I	H	E	P	N	H	F
E	X	A	J	E	C	N	N	C	C	A	S	S	E
N	C	U	R	J	G	U	R	U	Z	A	G	E	R
D	L	I	B	S	O	E	R	T	S	X	E	G	I
E	F	E	U	B	A	R	B	E	C	U	E	B	F
N	X	I	M	M	E	R	I	F	P	M	A	C	G
C	T	J	H	O	R	D	I	T	V	M	Q	Q	N
E	Z	U	W	O	N	S	N	N	A	E	C	O	I
D	K	U	Z	Y	I	A	U	S	C	N	X	C	M
A	E	L	T	S	A	C	D	N	A	S	R	Z	M
Y	P	I	C	N	I	C	O	E	T	G	D	X	I
X	A	M	B	H	T	V	W	V	I	A	M	A	W
J	B	V	G	C	X	G	H	K	O	Z	N	G	S
O	X	G	N	I	T	A	O	B	N	J	C	Y	K