

Winter/Spring 2006

***Important Phone Numbers:***

EMERGENCY- DIAL 911

- Township Office — 215-536-3641
- Township Fax — 215-536-7211
- Pa. State Police — 215-249-9191
- Haycock Fire Co — 215-536-2224
- School Tax Office — 215-529-2026
- Earned Income Tax — 215-536-4253
- R.E Tax, Amy Shimp — 610-346-6361
- R.E Tax, Leah DeVito — 215-538-9888
- Game Commission — 610-926-3136
- PennDOT — 215-345-6060
- Service Electric Cable — 800-232-9100
- PPL Electric Utilities — 800-DIAL-PPL
- St. Lukes Ambulance — 215-538-4540
- Upper Bucks Regional
- EMS Ambulance — 610-847-8801
- Board of Assessment — 215-348-6219
- Dept. of Health — 215-536-6500
- Voter Registration — 215-348-6163
- Upper Bucks Gov't
- Services Center — 215-536-4289
- Quakertown P.O. — 215-536-6817

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# Haycock Township Report

## Taxes 101 – where do my tax dollars go?

Occasionally we get questions on why taxes keep going up and up, or why it seems like we don't get much for our tax dollars. During these conversations we come to find out that most people do not know how our local taxes are structured.

Haycock Township has three main sources of revenue:

Real Estate Tax of 1.25 mills out of a total tax millage rate of 137.4875, or less than one percent. The remaining large portion is made up of school and county taxes.

Earned Income tax of 1.5% of which 1% goes to the school district and the remaining half-percent goes to the township. The school district part of this tax increased a few years ago replacing the occupation tax.

Real Estate Transfer Tax of 1% which is split equally between the School District and Township. This tax is levied on all sales of real estate at the

time of transfer.

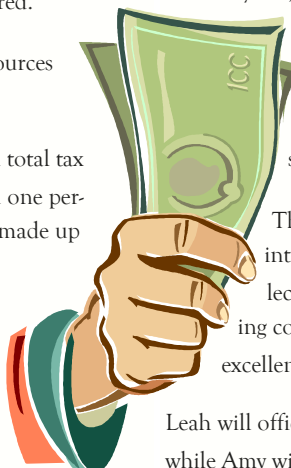
While taxes increase almost, if not every, year, Haycock Township tax rates have not increased in well over 30 years, and actually were reduced during that time.

As you can see, most of your total tax bill goes to providing education in our schools and for county services.

This is also a great time to introduce our new Real Estate Tax Collector, Leah DeVito and thank our outgoing collector, Amy Shimp, for her years of excellent work!

Leah will officially begin collecting the 2006 taxes, while Amy will collect any delinquent 2005 or prior taxes.

If you are looking for any information pertaining to taxes prior to 2006, please contact Amy Shimp at 610-346-6361.



## Recent mail thefts in Haycock

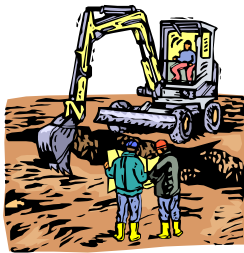
Recently there have been several reports that both outgoing and incoming mail were stolen from resident's mailboxes in Haycock Township. Tampering with mail receptacles is a federal offense and an offender may be fined up to \$250,000 and imprisoned for up to three years for each act of vandalism.

If you experience any mail theft or vandalism, or observe suspicious activity, please notify the Pennsylvania State Police, Dublin Barracks at 215-249-9191, as well as the Postmaster at your local Post Office. They may ask you to fill out a Form 1510 or Form 2016 to make an official report.



**Adopt an Open Burning Ordinance?**  
**Voice your opinion on the enclosed survey card**

*The Haycock Senior Citizens is a great place to meet friends, get information and snack on great treats.*



**Soil disturbance 1000 feet or greater require a plan be submitted to the Conservation District for approval**

## **To burn or not to burn, do we need a burning ordinance?**

Do we need an Open Burning Ordinance? Well, it depends who you ask!

The Township staff and Fire Company receive complaints and concerns throughout any given year, but without a local Ordinance, there is no immediate action that can be taken.

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has regulations in place to restrict Open Burning, but local enforce-

ment can be difficult to obtain in a timely fashion.

The current thinking is to adopt the DEP regulations in a local Ordinance, allowing the Zoning Officer, Building Inspector or the Fire Chiefs to enforce these regulations.

This Ordinance is written to allow residents to continue to burn their household domestic refuse and yard waste as always, while protecting the rights of neighbor-

ing residents. Main restrictions are not being able to burn organic waste, demolition waste, tires, treated wood, etc. There is also a restriction on burning between 1am and 5am to discourage allowing fires to smolder overnight.

Please fill out the enclosed survey postcard and return it to the Municipal Office by May 31, 2006.

Your responses will be taken into consideration before any action is taken.

## **Senior Citizens Summit on Aging**

Haycock Township was well represented by four of its residents at the Bucks County Summit on Aging.

The members who attended were, Elizabeth Shoenfeld, Grace Grim, Eddie Bauer, and Henry DePue. Together we learned about the growing population of those over 60, the many problems associated with living in a rural area, and ways to allow us to continue to live in our community.

The 2000 Census said that there were 326 residents in Haycock Township over the age of 60.

Add to these numbers, those who were 55 to 59 (140), we have a far greater amount.

Transportation, senior activities, and problems associated with living on a fixed income were just a few of the subjects that were addressed.

In order to make Haycock Township more senior-friendly, we need to identify those residents who may have special needs.

If you, or someone you know has problems getting to the doctor, going to the VA, shopping, or even visiting a senior center, we

would like to hear from you.

Before anything can be done, we need to know how many seniors need help and what services they need.

The Haycock Senior Citizens is a great place to meet friends, get information and snack on great treats.

Please give the township office a call at (215) 536-3641, and I will get back with you.

Henry DePue,  
Member, Board of Supervisors

## **A note from the Bucks County Conservation District**

The Bucks County Conservation District requested that we put the following notice in our newsletter :

Homeowners, Pool Contractors, Landscape Contractors—Bucks County Conservation District is

delegated to administer the Erosion Control Program on behalf of PADEP. Our Board of Directors has established a threshold of 1,000 square feet of earth disturbance. Disturbances of 1,000 square feet or more require a plan submission to the Conservation

District; 2000 square feet for swimming pools. Should you plan to be disturbing earth on your property, please contact the District at 215-345-7577 EARLY in the process. By doing so, you will not be held up at the local level, when you have all your approvals.

## Residents response to QAPC survey

The Quakertown Area Planning Committee distributed 13,526 surveys to residents of the six QAPC member municipalities (Haycock, Milford, and Richland townships and the Quakertown, Richlandtown and Trumbauersville boroughs).

Haycock Township had the largest response rate (20.1%) of all the municipalities, 982 surveys were mailed to all residents and property owners and 197 were returned.

While Haycock residents responses somewhat mirrors the total of all responses, the results did vary between municipalities. Results are for the use of the municipalities, to publish and use as they see fit.

The Haycock Township Board of Supervisors read every response received and all were forwarded to the Bucks County Planning Commission for tabulation.

Some of the results are as follows:

Top three responses to each question.

- How long lived in Quakertown area:  
(more than 15 years 58%)  
(1 to 5 years 17%)  
(6 to 10 years 15%)

- Three main reasons you chose to live in Haycock:  
(Attractive surroundings 27%)  
(General Quality of Life 24%)  
(Near Family and Friends 13%)

- How you rate the following services:

Fire Protection:  
(Excellent 47%)  
(Good 33%)  
(No Opinion 19%)

Public Schools:  
(Good 38%)  
(No Opinion 26%)  
(Fair 16%)

Snow Removal:  
(Good 43%)  
(Excellent 34%)  
(Fair 12%)

Street Maintenance:  
(Good 41%)  
(Excellent 20%)  
(Fair 20%)

- Rate the following characteristics in Haycock and the entire Quakertown area:

### Growth Management

Haycock:  
(Good 41%)  
(Fair 23%)  
(Excellent 19%)

Quakertown Area:  
(Poor 55%)  
(Fair 23%)  
(Good 11%)

### Natural Resource

Haycock:  
(Good 51%)  
(Excellent 23%)  
(Fair 15%)

Quakertown Area:  
(Fair 31%)  
(Good 24%)  
(Poor 23%)

### Open Space Preservation

Haycock:  
(Good 46%)  
(Excellent 21%)  
(Fair 20%)

Quakertown Area:  
(Poor 36%)  
(Fair 30%)  
(No Opinion 15%)

### Traffic/Road Conditions

Haycock:  
(Good 52%)  
(Fair 26%)  
(Excellent 11%)

Quakertown Area:  
(Poor 39%)  
(Fair 38%)  
(Good 17%)

- Would you use train service if available:  
(Yes 55%)  
(No 30%)  
(No Opinion 15%)

- Would you use bus service if available:  
(No 50%)  
(Yes 28%)  
(No Opinion 22%)

- The top 6 categories of importance when planning for the future of the Quakertown area are in order of preference:

Growth management  
Natural resource protection  
Open space preservation  
Ground water protection  
Public schools  
Traffic and road conditions

- Quality of life in Haycock:  
(Good 58%)  
(Excellent 36%)  
(Fair 6%)

- Quality of Life in Haycock:  
(Remaining the same 57%)  
(Declining 31%)  
(Improving 13%)

- The top 3 issues that most threaten the current quality of life in the Quakertown area:

Sprawl/Uncontrolled growth  
Taxes  
Loss of natural areas/Open space

- Top 3 qualities that make a place a 'good community':

Open space/Natural resources  
Rural character  
Quality schools

- Should Haycock acquire key open space, wildlife corridors and trail linkages?

(Yes 83%)  
(No 11%)  
(No Opinion 7%)

- Those who answered yes to acquiring more open space, supported the spending of public funds:

(Yes 128)  
(No 29)  
(No Opinion 27)

- The top 3 of the recreational facilities and activities that you would like to see improved in Haycock:

Walking trails  
Nature center  
Bicycling

- If you would like any additional information or have any questions about this survey please contact the township office.





## 2006 Budget adopted

The Board of Supervisors adopted the final budget for 2006 at the regular monthly business meeting held on December 7, 2005.

Tax rates remain unchanged as they have been for well over 30 years.

The General Fund budget for 2006 is \$593,482 plus the State Fund budget of \$124,510. The State fund is Haycock Township's portion of the Liquid Fuels

municipal allocation and is required by the state to be spent on road maintenance and equipment.

There are no funds appropriated from the Highway Capital Improvement Fund this year because it is being saved for a larger scale project in 2007 or 2008. This fund is from fees in-lieu of road improvements on subdivisions and must be used for road projects, such as restoration and overlays and has been used to overlay

almost three miles of road so far. The final budget is a three and one-half percent increase over the 2005 budget, with the most notable part of the increase being the saving of \$25,000 into the Land Acquisition Fund for future purchase of land.

No major equipment purchases are planned for this year as the equipment replacement plan has been completed.

## Road Work for 2006

The Road Department plans to oil and chip approximately three miles of roads this year, including the following roads:

Woodbine Lane    Lakewood Drive    Edgell Circle    Reed Lane    Oak Lane

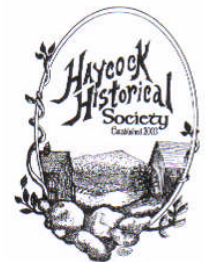
There may also be a few more roads added after we see what the winter brings.

The new boom mower was finally delivered in September and has proven to be all we had hoped for thus far, if not even more! Much needed brush-cutting was done on Mission Road, East Thatcher Road, Cider Press Road, Applebachsville Road, Creamery Road, and part of Roundhouse Road. More cutting is planned for various roads this year.

## Haycock Historical Society — A quick note

From the Historical Society—

Thank You to all those who supported and participated in this years Christmas Kringle Shoppe held in December. Also a reminder that the 2006 Kringle Shoppe will be held at 204 Pullen Station Road, but that it will be the final year there. More information will be announced when it is known.



## Volunteers achieve EMT certification

Congratulations to Haycock Fire Company members, Kristine Bauer, Chris Bauer and Ken Derstine for their successful completion of the Emergency Medical Technician Course and State certification.

This course required over 120 hours of training and many nights away from their families. As EMT's, this added skill will greatly benefit the residents and visitors of this great township.

Thanks to Gretchen Francis, Haycock Township Fire Company's QRS Captain and course instructor, there are now 20 new EMT's serving their local communities.

Haycock Township Board of Supervisors

## Haycock Fire Company awarded federal grant money

For the first time in its history, the Haycock Fire Company was awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for over \$135,000 for the purchase of new self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), cylinder fill station compressor, thermal imaging camera and gas monitor.

The SBCA purchase will replace older, outdated units, while the remaining items are equipment new to the Company. The compressor will allow the firefighters

to fill the air bottles in the station instead of having to coordinate with other fire companies to fill the bottles, sometimes taking several days.

The thermal imaging camera allows firefighters to see an image based on differences in temperature, enabling them to locate hot spots within walls and ceilings, or even help locate people entrapped.

The Company also received more grant help through Bucks County in the form of new dry suits and

SCUBA equipment, plus each fire company and ambulance are being allocated 25 new pagers on the new high-band dispatch system. These items were funded with a grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

The Company is very happy to have received this assistance and to know that our state and federal government is realizing the importance of volunteer fire companies.

Even with this grant funding, your support is still greatly needed with the increasing costs involved.



The Haycock Fire Company was formed in October 1954



We are here for  
**YOU!**

## Fire Company Officers for 2006

President – Chris Bauer  
 Vice President – Drew Rosenberger  
 Secretary – Gretchen Francis  
 Treasurer – Janet Radcliffe  
 Head Trustee – Matt Landis  
 Trustee – Howie Landis  
 Trustee – Frank Savini  
 Chief – Harry Grim, III  
 Deputy Chief – Eric Wightman  
 Battalion Chief – Drew Rosenberger

Safety Officer – Ron Bentley  
 Captain – Dominic Facenda  
 Lieutenant – Kevin McCarty  
 Marine Captain – Ed Kehs, Jr.  
 Marine Lieutenant – Frank Savini  
 QRS Captain – Gretchen Francis  
 QRS Lieutenant – Kristine Bauer  
 Chief Engineer – Chris Bauer  
 Assistant Engineer – Matt Landis

## Haycock Fire Company Calendar of Events

2005 was a very successful year for fundraisers at the firehouse, the same events are scheduled for 2006 as follows:

Breakfasts are held on the last Sunday in January, February, March, April, June, July, August and October.

Flower Sales are held on Easter and Mother's Day weekends.

Our Longaberger Basket Bingo will be held on May 7th.

Mother's Day Dinner will be held on May 14th

Our biggest fundraiser, Bikefest will be held once again on September 24th at the Southern Lehigh Living Memorial Park in Coopersburg.

The Haycock 10K Run will also be held in 2006 with the date yet to be announced.

As usual, we are always looking for volunteers to help out at our fundraisers, especially Bikefest. If you would be interested in joining as a social member to help out at fundraisers, stop by and talk to one of our officers, or call the firehouse and leave a message.



The Haycock Fire Company is an all-volunteer organization providing fire, emergency medical services and marine/diver rescue

# Haycock Township Report

Volume 10

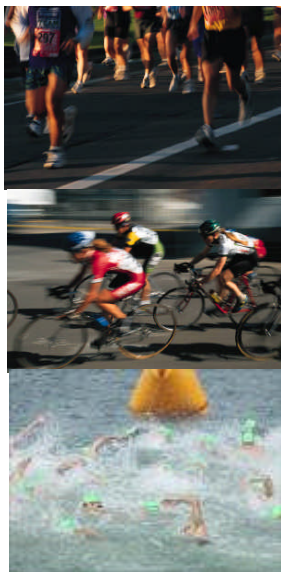


HAYCOCK TOWNSHIP,  
BUCKS COUNTY,  
PENNSYLVANIA

Haycock Township  
640 Harrisburg School Road  
Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951

Phone: 215-536-3641  
Fax: 215-536-7211  
Email: info@haycocktwp.com

Visit our website  
[www.haycocktwp.com](http://www.haycocktwp.com)



**Steelman Triathlon to be  
held on Sunday  
July 16, 2006**

## Haycock to host Steelman Triathlon—Rt. 563 to be closed

International Cycling Center (ICC) is pleased to bring the Lehigh Valley Steelman Triathlons to Lake Nockamixon State Park in Haycock Township.

These are USAT sanctioned (pending) sprint and international distance triathlons. The Sprint Race will be 0.5 mile lake swim in Lake Nockamixon, 12 mile bicycle race on state route PA 563, a 3.1 mile run on trails in the beautiful Lake Nockamixon State Park. The International Race is on the same venue with extended course, 0.9 mile lake swim, 24.8 mile bicycle race and a 6.2 mile run.

Register online at [www.linmark.com/race/register.asp?race\\_id=498](http://www.linmark.com/race/register.asp?race_id=498).

Pre-race packet pickup is Saturday July 15, 2006 from 2pm to 5pm with the race itself starting at 7:30am the next day.

The races are nationally sanctioned (pending) through USAT. This sanctioning helps to ensure a safe and enjoyable event for all participants. ALL participants are required to have a current USAT membership or one day licenses.

We invite the Nockamixon Park area communities to consider participating in the races or volunteering for race support. We need marshals to man the bike course and water stations and do many other important support jobs. All volunteers get free tee-shirts and food.

ICC is also organizing the Le Tour DeSales, a Collegiate Cy-

cling Race on July 1-2, 2006. The broad mission of ICC is to develop a comprehensive international cycling center, museum and hall of fame destination facility in the Lehigh Valley. We plan to make it the definitive institution for the sport of cycling, just as Cooperstown is to baseball. It will have facilities for a museum and hall of fame, conferencing and education, and sports training. In the second phase we will include an indoor velodrome, designed to be used for multiple sports in addition to bicycle racing. This will be a year-round facility operated by professional staff.

For more information please visit their website at [www.steelmantri.com](http://www.steelmantri.com)