

HOOKSTOWN VFD

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

To the residents of Greene Township, Hookstown, and Georgetown Boroughs,

As of this year, I have assumed the role of Chief of Hookstown Volunteer Fire Department, an organization I've proudly served for 19 years. The Hookstown VFD owes a debt of gratitude to the community for your support, and I have some growing concerns for the future of emergency services in our communities, so I feel it appropriate to reach out to you in this way.

First, I would like to thank the residents of our communities, as well as the Township & Borough leadership and their Emergency Services Board representatives. Community support is a key source of our funding and is critical to keeping our doors open and providing emergency response services. We quite literally could not do this without you. In addition to financial donations, community members have stepped in and assisted with fundraising and other various tasks. We appreciate and rely upon this help. Anyone with or without interest or skills in firefighting can assist in some way.

Second, I want to thank the members of the department themselves. There is a skilled and dedicated core team of members that ensures we respond in a timely manner, and mitigate an emergency situation in a safe and effective manner. They sacrifice personal time, and often their sleep. **Please note, these members are volunteers who have full-time work just as do the majority of our community members.** This creates an ebb and flow in staffing for emergency calls, particularly during the daylight and early afternoon hours.

Unfortunately, even with the support of the community and hard work of our members, we are facing a crisis. In the years I've served there has been a mostly steady decline in volunteers to help in the department. Our community relies on this department for a number of fire or medical emergency situations. These things happen day or night, and often require someone to willingly get out of bed or leave their family dinner to respond.

In a recent fire that occurred in Hanover Township in the early morning hours, we (Hookstown VFD) had only 3 available firefighters. This ultimately resulted in having to call in additional help from West Virginia, Washington County, and departments as far out as Brighton Township. The support of neighboring departments was critical in our ability to do what was needed.

This pattern shows again and again, where staffing is uncertain for any given emergency. In addition, medical calls in 2020 within our three municipalities and Hanover Township yielded



Miss Pig, owned by Mike
Messner, eats a fancy donut

*Regardless of your
qualifications,
everyone can assist in
some way.*

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SPEAK ROVER, SPEAK!

Over the last two years, members of the 5-10 Year Strategic Planning Committee have heard from several residents about the possibility of creating a dog park in Greene Township for pet owners and their dogs. This would be a community driven project, not a taxpayer funded expense.

If you are interested in discussing this idea, the volunteer participation and the fundraising activity required to potentially create a dog park in Greene Township, please contact Kathy Nelson, Greene Township Planning Commission Secretary at hollygirl2006@yahoo.com or call the township office and we can put you in touch.



an average of 26.8 minutes for an ambulance to arrive, leaving only Firefighter-EMTs to care for any level of critical patient in the interim. While we are not staffed around the clock, we do our best to cover these scenarios and bridge the gap until the transporting ambulance can arrive and provide an advanced level of care.

My concerns are these: **I fear the day is coming (if not nearly here) where we are not sufficiently staffed to respond to a critical emergency. I also fear the day where we don't have the help we need to raise the funds to keep the department in operation.** My call to action for the community is this: please consider what skills you could provide to help our cause. If you have skills in finances, handy-work, cutting grass, or vehicle maintenance, we could use you. If you're good in a crisis, and can learn the trade, we will take you on as a firefighter. If you would like to learn more about EMS, attain your Emergency Medical Technician certification and offer your services to the community, we'll find a way to get you into a class. **Please take away this piece of information: Anyone has a skill they can offer to help,** and if you have the drive to make sure you are not the one who finds themselves in an emergency situation with no one available to help you, we would love to partner with you. We also are open to additional ideas to solve these issues.

We care about the communities in which we serve. We want to continue to provide education in fire prevention and safety. We desire to be there for you in the unfortunate moment where you need us, whatever the emergency.

In your service, Doug Waxler, Chief Hookstown VFD, Fire & EMS

DUMPSTER ANNOUNCEMENT



RE-OPENING

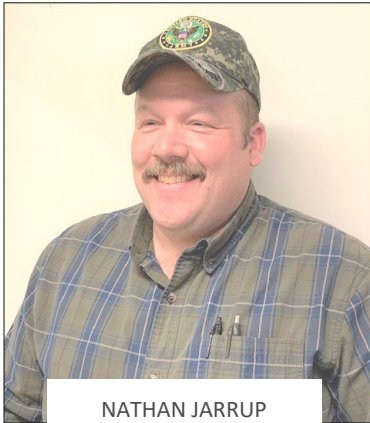
Saturday, March 20, 2021
Each Saturday thru Nov 6th
9:00 am—3:00 pm

Back in the 80's Greene Township opened up a dumpster service to provide residents a place to dispose of unwanted items and keep roadways litter free. It's a service we have offered for more than 40 years free-of-charge to residents.

Over the years we've found creative ways to offset dumpster costs, like reducing operating days and separating out the metal to recycle it. Even so, scrap prices have continued to decline and landfill fees have increased 27% from \$10,986 in 2015 to \$13,967 in 2020.

Beginning March 20th there will be a small charge per use of the dumpster. Our goal today is the same as 40 years ago and we appreciate each and every one of you for aiding in this effort.

Small load—\$5.00 (car) • Medium load — \$10.00 (truck) • Large load — \$15.00 (trailer)



NATHAN JARRUP

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF A GREENE TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR

A little over one year ago, members of our community elected me to represent them as a Greene Township Supervisor. With great anticipation, I was catapulted into 2020.

First, I experienced the PSATS Boot Camp for township supervisors. In this three day condensed training for new

and returning township supervisors, you become well versed in the numerous jobs that you never knew existed, right? PSATS does an excellent job, but there is only so much one can retain in a short period of time!

Second, after my new appointment as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Supervisors and taking responsibility for township Parks and Recreation, the wisps of Covid-19 infiltrated our innocent township family. Not only was I green at my new position, we were also confronted with a new and ominous hurdle - a global pandemic. As we all struggled to wrap our heads around this new foe, our township family helped to guide the community through these historic and unprecedented times.

As many of us have experienced, the direction forward through Covid-19 was as clear as mud. Over the next year, we all struggled to navigate through the many challenges laid before us. All the while, normal township activity (and life) continued to transpire. As we feverishly slogged our way through the Covid-19 mud, it became apparent as to why people embark in public service. The relationships forged when we combine forces to tackle any obstacle, although challenging, is invigorating and full of reward.

Lastly, as the normal pace of life was slowed down by the Covid-19 era restrictions, I began to take stock in the beauty Greene Township has to offer the community. Instead of driving past the township property, I began to walk the North Mile Trail. Within a half hour walk, I was able to see the unlimited potential that our properties hold. At this point, I was engaged!

Despite the pandemic in 2020, the 5-10 Year Committee and the Greene Township Board of Supervisors collaborated with local community organizations. Boy Scouts wishing to earn their Eagle Scout rank and seniors of the South Side Area School District fulfilling their senior projects became our partners. Since the start of my public service, our cooperative group has seen buildings painted in the Mill Creek Community Park, property survey markers established on our Riverfront property, and the rejuvenation of our covered bridge along the North Mile Trail. We also began to take a hard look at what the future holds for the properties of Greene Township and its residents. I encourage anyone looking for an opportunity to enrich our community, to look no further. Why travel a far distance? Greene is right here!!

All parties and individuals interested in partnering with Greene Township may contact me at nrjgreene@gmail.com, or the township office at greenetownshipsecretary@gmail.com.

5-10 Year Committee meetings, held on the third Monday of the month, are where we discuss and plan future enrichment of township properties.

If you want to get plugged into the township, this is where it begins.

Until our next newsletter, enjoy our local parks!

Nathan Jarrup, Parks and Recreation

TOWNSHIP SUPERVISORS

MIKE MESSNER, Chairman

NATHAN JARRUP, Vice-Chairman

MERRY SMITH, Road Master

KIMBERLY MOORE, Admin Sec/Treas.

PLANNING COMMISSION

ROSE MARIE KENDALL—Chair

KATHY NELSON—Secretary

KARI WILSON

LISA MOORE

MIKE MESSNER

AUDITORS

SHARON VINCI, Chair

MATT SOLTIS, Vice-Chair

SHARON ASHCROFT, Secretary

ZONING HEARING

Renders decisions on specific types of land use appeals and applications under the Township **Zoning** Ordinances.

FRANCIS HIMIC—Chair

JUDY NOVAK—Vice Chair

BIVIAN MOORE

KEVIN TAYLOR

JACK SHARP III

EMERGENCY SERVICES

Reviews and evaluates requests for financial assistance from emergency service entities and distribute available funds.

Made up of representatives from Greene Township, Hookstown & Georgetown Boroughs, HVFD and community at large.

Greene Township delegates:

NATE JARRUP, Chair

MERRY SMITH, Alternate

PUBLIC MEETING CALENDAR

262 Pittsburgh Grade Rd., Hookstown

1st TUESDAY	7:00 pm	BOS Regular Meeting
Last TUESDAY	7:00 pm	BOS Workshop
3rd MONDAY	6:30 pm	5-10 Year Committee
3rd MONDAY	7:30pm	Planning Commission
4th MONDAY	7:00 pm	Emergency Services Board
(ESB is March 22 and every other month thereafter)		

HOOKSTOWN GRANGE ELECTION DAY SOUP, SANDWICH & PIE SALE MAY 18, 2021

11:00 am – 7:00 pm

eat in or take home for dinner

Quarts of Soup

Vegetable, Bean, and Potato - \$6.00

Sandwiches:

Sloppy Joes, Ham BBQ \$2.00

Hot Dogs \$1.50

Pies

Coconut Cream, Chocolate and Lemon
\$2.50 slice; \$10.00 Whole Pie

Whole Pies and Quarts of Soup can be
pre-ordered by calling:

Jill Scott - 724-513-6993

Mary Lee McElhaney – 724-573-9207

HOOKSTOWN FAIR AUGUST 24-28, 2021

AUGUST 24 - 6:00 pm

Farm Stock Tractor Pulls & Modified
Garden Tractor Pulls

AUGUST 25 - 7:00 pm

Dialed Action Bicycle Stunt Show

AUGUST 26 - 7:00 PM

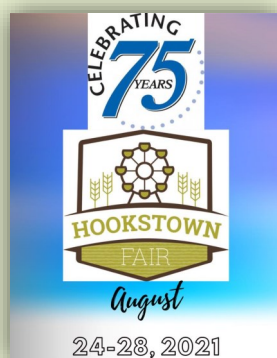
Monster Trucks

AUGUST 27 - 7:00 pm

Demolition Derby

AUGUST 28 - 7:00 pm

Truck & Tractor Pulls



HOOKSTOWN FAIR ROYALTY

Hookstown Fair is looking for the next
Hookstown Fair Queen and Princess.

Fair Queen wins a \$1000.00

Scholarship and Princess wins a

\$50.00 gift card. Rules and

Regulations are on the Hookstown

Fair Web Site at [https://](https://www.hookstownfair.com/)

www.hookstownfair.com/.



THE SOUTH SIDE COMMUNITY SPRING 2021 ROADSIDE CLEANUP EVENT

Emma Campbell, a senior at South Side
High School, will be overseeing the
cleanup as her Senior Class Project.

Held during the weekends of April 17-18
and April 24-25 with the following
weekend of May 1-2 to be used if we
experience weather issues. Cleanup is
not restricted to the weekends and can
be done at your convenience.

Please contact Jeff Seik at

jeffseik@comcast.net or 412-979-3148
if you are interested in volunteering.

Let's all join together to make Emma's
project a success !

Benefit Dinner Saturday March 27 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Hookstown Grange

Baked Steak Dinner - \$15
Baked steak, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans,
cole slaw, roll and choice of coconut cream,
lemon or chocolate cream pie

Takeout only

**Pre-order required - call Mary Lee
at 724-573-9207 by March 20**

**Basket Auction
& 50/50**



All proceeds benefit Darlene Knoerdel,
who lost everything in a house fire.

Hookstown Grange & Community Benefit Committee



SOUTH SIDE HISTORIC VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

The village will be open to the public
this summer! Stay tuned for dates and
times and check our [Facebook page](#) and
[website](#) regularly for up-to-date
information.

<https://sshva.wordpress.com/>

HVFD FISH FRY

Every Friday through Good Friday,
April 2nd.

Limited Eat-In is available. Fries run
from 4:30 until 7pm. We have Fish
(baked or fried), Chicken Strips, and
fantail shrimp. Two sides per dinner
(mac & cheese, fries, and coleslaw
slaw. The mac & cheese and coleslaw
slaw are home made. Meats are cooked
and maintained separately for those
with allergies.

HANG THIS INSERT ON YOUR FRIDGE!



Repairing damaged siding and placing cut stone wing walls at covered bridge exit.

EAGLE SCOUT PROJECTS IN THE TOWNSHIP

Eagle Scout Trevor Infantozzi has completed his project of restoring the Covered Bridge on the Township farm. His work included stabilizing one of the telephone poles under the bridge, replacing the roof and missing boards, clearing up brush and trimming trees around the bridge. Trevor started this project on July 10, 2020 and finished on February 20, 2021. Trevor, fellow Scouts, parents & volunteers put in a combined 1162.75 manhours to complete the project.

Logan Blake is also performing community service projects for his Eagle Scout badge. He has chosen to restore the North Mile Trail by replacing a 24 x 30 plastic culvert pipe at a crossover on the trail, located about 50 yards after crossing the covered bridge. He will also fill in small sink holes at the trail switchback and remove fallen trees and debris in the drainage area and stabilize the crossing switchback with barn stone wing walls.

We anticipate that the North Mile Trail will provide ongoing Eagle Scout project opportunities in the future.

The township would like to thank Trevor and Logan for taking on these projects and helping make our parks and recreational areas more useful and beautiful.



A plaque thanking several local businesses displayed in the bridge.



Feeling accomplished



WELCOME LISA MOORE

The Greene Township Planning Commission welcomes Lisa Moore as our newest member. Lisa was appointed to the Planning Commission on February 2, 2021 by the Board of Supervisors. Lisa has been very active on the 5 -10 Year Strategic Planning Committee, most recently serving as the liaison with our Eagle Scout candidates on their project requirements and schedules. Lisa fills the remainder of the term of John Allison who resigned in January. We thank John for his service and expertise on the Planning Commission since his appointment in 2012.

10-3-20 – Work crew wrapping up beautiful day!



Looking for a contact lens? Nope, the work crew is packing the stone in the ramp to the covered bridge. October 3, 2020

Stone donated by Georgetown Sand & Gravel.

GPPT, LLC SOLAR FARM - LAND DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Planning Commission recommended the GPPT, LLC Land Development Plan for approval to the Board of Supervisors on March 16, 2020, just as Pennsylvania began a COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. The PADEP issued a Storm Water Permit for the project in the fall of 2020.



The project site consists of 210 acre located within a 448 acre parcel and will be accessed from Hill and Cain Roads.

In February of 2021, Duquesne Light Co. began contacting affected landowners with information regarding an upgrade from single phase to three phase power on Cain Road. Duquesne Light has completed all engineering work associated with the required upgrades and anticipates issuing contracts to construction firms in March 2021, with site work to begin shortly thereafter.

Tree clearing and grubbing activities are expected to begin in June of 2021. Construction is currently targeted to begin in July 2021 and continue through the first quarter of 2022. GPPT, LLC reports that construction has been impacted and delayed by equipment shortages and long lead times for some equipment.

Copies of the site survey and Land Development Plan can be viewed at the Greene Township Office.

ZONING UPDATES

GREENE TOWNSHIP IS A GREAT TOWNSHIP TO LIVE IN. LET US ALWAYS BE RESPECTFUL OF EACH OTHER AT ALL TIMES.

- Please make sure before you build or add any addition to your property call our office about setbacks and building /zoning permits.
- Please be courteous of your neighbors and the township and keep your property cleaned up at all times.
- Please remove any illegal non-registered junk cars and miscellaneous junk on your property. Call if you have any questions about unlicensed vehicles or the nuisance ordinance.

We are here to help answer any questions you have!

Thank you, Randy Morrow, Code and Zoning Officer, Greene Township

SOUTH SIDE STUDENT INCLUDES TOWNSHIP IN SENIOR PROJECT

Claire Hans , a senior at South Side High School, contacted the township last fall to coordinate a project that would be beneficial to the residents of our community. She chose to paint unique designs on several garbage cans for Mill Creek Community Park. Thank you Claire for your resourcefulness and artistic abilities!





MAGGIE'S PIE CRUST

2 cups flour - brand name preferred

2/3 cup shortening (Crisco or lard)

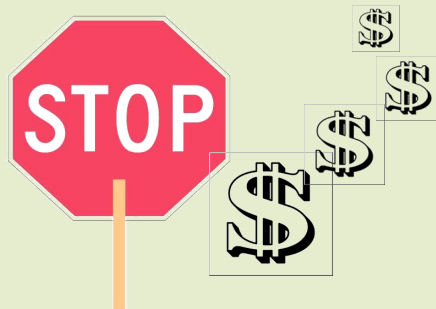
1 tsp salt

3 tbsp sugar

water

Mix all together using your hands until it resembles crumbly peas. The temperature of your hands will soften the shortening. Add water to form ball. How much water will depend on the moisture content of your flour.

Yields a double crust (for fruit pies) for an 8 inch pie pan.



\$306.85

THE COST OF 1 STOP SIGN

Stolen and damaged stop signs in the township is a regular occurrence. Since January, the township road crew has replaced the same stop sign 4 times, not to mention various road name signs last year. Each new sign is an expense to the township and, ultimately, paid for by taxpayers. If you see damage being done to signs please call the police and report it to the township.

BUCKETS OF MONEY

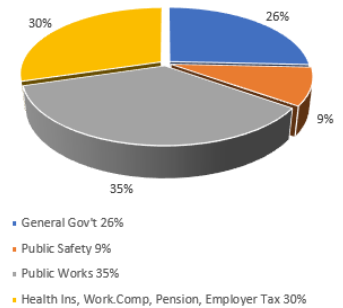
The General Fund Budget for 2021 is based on a Real Estate Tax rate of 9 mills, 1 mil of which is designated to the Emergency Services Board. The remaining 8 mills is used for such things as wages and benefits, recreation, public safety, planning activities, legal and engineering work, tax collection services, insurance, dumpster service, buildings and grounds.

In the past few years, the cost of 'doing business' has continued to climb, with the revenue streams continuing to be fairly consistent from year to year. With this in mind, the Greene Township Board of Supervisors and it's staff have remained steady in their determination to keep a tight budget on track without raising taxes for a 5th consecutive year.

The Liquid Fuels Fund is for expenses related to road materials and maintenance. Revenue for Liquid Fuels comes annually from PennDOT, derived from state license fees and gas taxes. Since the actual gallons of gasoline purchased by Pennsylvania residents in 2020 was significantly lower than prior years, the amount of money received by PA municipalities was also much less. The 2021 Liquid Fuels allocation of \$155,696.40 was \$15,097.17 LESS (approximately 9%) than that received in 2020. The reduced allocation, along with increasing costs for road materials and fuel, will make it much more difficult to maintain township roads in the coming year. Turnback funding from PennDOT, earmarked specifically for maintenance of Georgetown Road and McCleary Road, remains the same at \$24,560.00 annually.

Copies of the full budget can be obtained at the township office for anyone interested in seeing further details.

General Fund Expenses



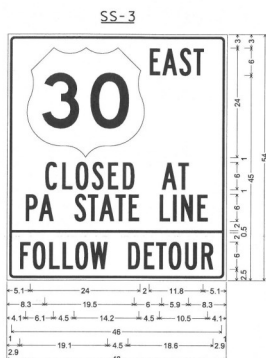
Liquid fuels funds will be used to perform routine maintenance, such as cross drain replacement and/or seal coat & tar and chip, on several roads this season.

Temple Rd.
Long Rd.
Lokomski Rd.
Silver Slipper Rd.
Upper Service Rd.
Lokomski Rd.
Snowden Rd.



ANTISKID NEEDS

For more than 40 years Greene Township has received a free supply of bottom ash which was used on township roads as anti-skid. The closure of the First Energy fossil fuel plant means, going forward, we will not only have to purchase anti-skid material, but we must also construct a building in which to house it. Meetings with the township engineer to discuss funding and available grants for this project have been productive and we hope to move forward in the coming year.



ROUTE 30 REALIGNMENT

As many of you may know, the Route 30 realignment project was originally intended to start in the Spring of 2020. However, COVID affected nearly everything and the Route 30 project was no exception. Crews were not able to start until November of 2020 which pushed the project well past its original planned completion dates.

The Red Dog Road closure and detour is scheduled to start August of 2021 and last until January 2022. The mainline Route 30 closure is scheduled to start March of 2022 and last until August of 2022. There is a tremendous amount of utility involvement which could potentially cause delays. Absent delays, the project could be completed in October of 2022.

Watch for future updates on the township [website](#) and Facebook page.

Contact Us

Greene Township

262 Pittsburgh Grade Rd

Hookstown, PA 15050

724.573.1111

www.greentownship.net

Office Administration

Hours are M-F 8:30-4:30

Road Department Hours
are M-F 7:00—3:00

724.573.4612



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