



Latimore Township

Adams County, Pennsylvania

Newsletter Issue XVIII Spring 2016

www.latimore.org



Larry Dost
Vice-Chairman



Dan Worley
Chairman



Woody Myers
Supervisor

A Letter from your Supervisors: Update on the Route 15 Controversy

As many of you may be aware, Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has been working on plans to make significant changes to the intersections along Route 15, not just in neighboring York County, but also in Latimore Township. The news that Latimore Township was to be included in the proposed changes came as a big surprise to your Supervisors, and we immediately set about to challenge the plans.

The original plans we received would have closed most of the intersections with Route 15 for cross-traffic and left turns, requiring all traffic to make right turns and travel some distance to another intersection before going

through what is known as a 'jughandle' in order to turn around. We disagreed with PennDOT's proposal and complained about the inconvenience it would cause all our residents. We also made a couple of suggestions for alternative, less intrusive changes, but these were turned down.

After many meetings with PennDOT representatives and local legislators, a new plan was prepared, which we felt still did not meet the needs of our residents. It was this plan that was presented at a public meeting at Northern Middle School in December, 2015. There were only 30 Latimore Township residents in attendance at this meeting, and we felt that our residents had not had ample public input. For that reason, we arranged to hold our own meeting so that all residents would have the opportunity to voice their concerns and ask questions of PennDOT.

However, just recently we were informed that the proposed changes to Route 15 have been halted to allow time for further studies and for a reassessment of

the scale of the project. This is good news for Latimore Township, and it means that our public meeting will be postponed until further notice.

Throughout all the many hours of meetings and negotiations with Adams County Planning officials, legislators, and influential people within PennDOT, it has been our aim to promote our township's best interests. We are happy to report at this time that, thanks to our persistence, this Route 15 project will not be visiting Latimore Township until further studies and input from all concerned are considered.

Sincerely,
Dan Worley, Chairman
Larry Dost, Vice-Chairman
Woody Myers, Supervisor



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Historical Notes – General William Wierman Wright

One of the two men from our local area to achieve the rank of general during the Civil War was from Latimore Township. William Wierman Wright was born on July 27, 1824, the son of William and Phoebe Wright. The Wrights, members of the Quaker faith, were active agents of the Underground Railroad and operated Plainfield Nursery in Latimore Township.

William attended local schools and “finished his education at the Academy at Gettysburg, under the charge of General Herman Haupt”. He began his engineering career with the Pennsylvania Railroad in 1847. In 1855 he became the Chief Engineer of the Memphis and Charleston Railroad. By 1857 he was employed by the Honduras Inter-oceanic Railroad. He worked in Honduras until May of 1858.

From there he was sent to England by the Honduras Inter-oceanic Railroad; he traveled throughout Europe for the next year. He then returned to work for the Pennsylvania Railroad, where he stayed until the outbreak of the Civil War. Wright then entered government service and was connected with the Military Railroad until the end of the war. He served in various capacities, attaining the rank of General. At the time of the Battle of Gettysburg, he was Military Superintendent of Transportation at Harrisburg. He played an important role in facilitating General Sher-

man’s “March to the Sea” in the fall of 1864, being in charge of the Military Railroad Construction Corp. Once the corp was disbanded in May of 1865, Wright returned to work in the private sector, being involved with the construction of several bridges and other public works. Shortly before his death, he was a member of the Commission of Engineers that met in Panama “to examine and report upon the proposed route for the Interoceanic Canal.”

General William Wierman Wright died in Philadelphia on March 9, 1882, at the age of 57, closing out a 35 year career in civil engineering. By the time of his death, he had traveled the world, and been involved in many projects that people can still identify today: Horseshoe Curve, Panama Canal, Quebec Harbor, bridges in London, and General Sherman’s “March to the Sea”. He never married, and is buried next to his parents in the graveyard of the Huntington Meeting House. A portrait of the General hangs on the second floor of the Seminary Ridge Museum in Gettysburg.

You can learn more about General William Wierman Wright by visiting Ye Olde Sulphur Spa Historical Society at 408 Main Street, York Springs. The museum is open the first Sunday of each month from 2-4 p.m. and every Wednesday evening from 6-9 p.m.

Information in quotes was copied from sources on file at YOSSHHS archives.

Information provided by YOSSHHS, 408 Main Street, York Springs. www.yosshs.org

The Wright House:



Police Department

Recycling Center

Our Police Department is proud to be working alongside the State Police to serve Latimore Township. We will continue to focus on answering calls for service, active patrols, investigating crimes and traffic enforcement. You as a resident can greatly assist the police department and the PA State Police by calling 9-1-1 when you see suspicious activity or a crime occurring. If an incident can be handled while it is active, that will save the Police Department or the PA State Police a lot of investigation time. During our non-coverage times the PA State Police will respond to crashes and active calls that need immediate response.

In January 2016 the Township purchased new body armor for the Latimore Township Police Officers to replace body armor that had been in service for some time. The new body armor is a necessity to keep the officers safe from a potential gun shot, and the manufacturer’s recommended life for body armor is 5 years.

With nice weather arriving, please watch for runners and bicycle riders on the roadways. Remember to “Share the Road”.

The police department wishes you a safe year.

Sincerely,
Mike Weigand, Chief of Police



Latimore Township continues to offer a free recycling program located at 559 Old US Route 15, York Springs. The recycling center is open Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. It will be closed on the following days:

- May 28: Memorial Day Weekend
- July 2: Independence Day Weekend
- September 3: Labor Day Weekend
- October 8: Columbus Day Weekend
- November 12: Week of Veterans Day
- November 26: Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 24: Christmas Holiday
- December 31: New Year’s Holiday

For questions regarding the recycling center and acceptable items, please contact the Recycling Coordinator Sam Giardullo at (717) 528-8833.



Park Report

As the weather gets warmer and the days grow longer, we anticipate more activity at the Latimore Township Park. From the ever-popular soccer fields and modern playground to the lovely walking trail and the large pavilion, there is something for all ages to enjoy. We aim to keep the park well-maintained, and to that end we have recently started updating the surveillance system.

Don't forget that the large pavilion is available to rent for your family gatherings, neighborhood picnics, and much more! Contact the township office at (717) 528-4614 to book a time, and check out the Park Rental Agreement on our website at www.latimore.org.

Here's to a safe and fun-filled season at the park!

Sincerely,
Woody Myers, Chairman of the Park Board

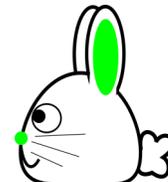


Website Redesign



Beginning this year, the website for Latimore Township, www.latimore.org, has been redesigned from the ground up to accommodate and support the latest internet browsers on any size device, whether that be a phone, tablet, or desktop computer. The prior website design had been in place from 2008 through the beginning of 2016, and while it was fully functional, it was more than due for a refresh. Please check out the new website if you haven't already. All time and effort in maintaining and redesigning the site is provided as a volunteer service to the township.

Sincerely,
Dave Worley, Editor



Road Department Report

We are pleased to report that Latimore Township has done well in recovering its losses following the November, 2013, fire that destroyed the maintenance building and much of its contents. Most of the heavy equipment and machinery affected by the fire have been restored or replaced, and the building itself has been rebuilt. Some of you will have seen the photo in the *Gettysburg Times* of the charred dump truck that was pulled from the burning building. That truck has had a make-over, and we are very pleased with the result! Have a look at these before and after pictures:



Charred Dump Truck (Photo by Holly Fletcher, *Gettysburg Times*)



Fully Restored Township Dump Truck

This was a challenging winter for our road crew, with the huge snowfall in January resulting in a declaration of State of Emergency. There were many trucks out around the clock to clear the township roads, and we are thankful for your patience and cooperation as we battled the elements. Given the severity of the storm and the corresponding expense to the township, we have applied for PEMA funds.

As always, please contact the Road Department at (717) 528-7013 with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,
Woody Myers, Supervisor



Latimore Township

NEWSLETTER XVIII - SPRING 2016



Latimore Township Board of Supervisors
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www.latimore.org

Editor: Dave Worley
All editing and articles done by volunteers.

Meeting Dates

All meetings are held at the Latimore Township Municipal Building unless otherwise specified.

Board of Supervisors

Second Monday of each month starting at 6:00 P.M. (except January)

Planning Commission

Meetings held as needed on the fourth Tuesday of each month starting at 8:00 P.M.

Park Board

Meetings held as needed. Some meetings may take place at the park pavilion.

Community Crime Watch

Meetings held as needed.

Zoning Hearing Board

Meetings held as needed.

Contact Information

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