The Derry Township Supervisors recognized the efforts of the Derry Township Comprehensive Plan Volunteer Work Group and the Hershey Center for Applied Research at their January 22nd meeting, for receiving the Dauphin County Premier Planning Award. The awards were presented by the Dauphin County Commissioners and the Dauphin County Planning Commission on January 15, 2013.

This new award program was created to acknowledge projects in Dauphin County that aide communities in their planning decisions, promote smart growth and spark revitalization. Derry Township received the award in the Community Capacity category for their efforts to develop a vision statement that encompasses the values of its community members while embracing smart growth principles to guide the update to the Township’s comprehensive plan. The vision statement is a proactive guide on what the community wants for the future and how it wants to achieve it.

The Comprehensive Plan Volunteer Work Group, a committee comprised of Township supervisors, Planning Commission members and staff and representatives of the resident and working community, such as the Hershey entities, senior citizens, school district, medical center, civic and environmental groups and developers, worked for over a year conducting a community survey, meeting with organizations, and facilitating "listening sessions" to give the residents, business owners, institutions, and stakeholders a voice on how the Township should grow and what it should look like in the next ten to twenty years.

"This award is a tribute to the hard work and commitment of the members of our comprehensive plan review committee. Derry Township should be proud of its citizen volunteers and the first rate quality of the plan they drafted for the Board of Supervisors," said Chairman Chris Abruzzo.

Supervisor Sandy Ballard, a member of the work group said, "This low-cost, grass-roots effort was made possible by volunteers who spent countless hours drafting a community survey, gathering information, and meeting with the public, and community members who participated in the process, shared ideas, and provided useful feedback. Now, it’s time to take that community-based Vision of a more walkable town and make it into a reality."

The Hershey Center for Applied Research received an award for Sustainable Growth for the innovative development and operation of their center. HCAR opened in 2007 as a place to foster innovation and growth for businesses of all types. During development, special care was taken to preserve the 100 year old floodplain’s habitat for native plants, as well as restore a historic farmhouse on the property, now renovated into a restaurant for employees. As part of the development a bike trail was relocated onto the property as well as a child care center for working parents. The site is also the host to the Hershey Farmer’s Market. The Center continues to expand, offering mixed use facilities for research, lab and office space.

"It is our vision to create a fully functioning community where businesses can develop and grow, and where their employees can network and collaborate," said Director Jack Atchason. "We believe that is ‘sustainable growth’ in the truest sense of the term."

"The Hershey Center for Applied Research is an innovative addition to the community and is beneficial to the local economy," commented Chairman Abruzzo.
A Report
from Chris Abruzzo, Chairman of the Board of

Construction

There Is a Light at the End of the Tunnel!

If I have learned anything over the last five years as a member of the board of supervisors, it is that no matter how well you try to plan construction projects, they are are dirty, inconvenient, and seem to last forever. The infrastructure improvements are overdue and much needed and will serve our community well when finished, but they have also been, at times, dreadfully painful 42 live through. During the last year, we were challenged and frustrated with the multitude of utility company road projects, the township’s road and intersection improvement projects, and the stormwater system upgrades. Many of these projects came to fruition at the same time, some purposely and some not, but all having an impact on the quality of life of many residents.

But.......THE END IS IN SIGHT!

A majority of the work has been completed with the finishing stages delayed due to the colder temperatures.

PA American Water Company is finishing the installation of line on Areba Avenue with service lines in the area of Valley Road and Ridge Road. The utility cuts will be brought up to the existing pavement on Areba Avenue and the roadway will be recycled and a overlay will be applied in the Spring.

PA Power and Light has finished the installation of conduits in the area of Mill Street and will complete work in the area of North Hockersville Road, east to North Mill Street in the next week, weather permitting. We will see them working on pulling wire in the manholes and making connections.

The Storm Water Project has been completed on Cocoa Avenue and is progressing to Cherry Drive with the sanitary sewer work ahead of the storm installation. The final phase of storm pipe installation has begun in the area of Old West Chocolate Avenue and will follow the same path as the sanitary sewer work. The final pavement to be completed and excavation for the north bridge abutment is underway.

As for the new bridge on Park Avenue, the subsurface soil compaction required for the north and south bridge abutments have been completed and excavation for the north bridge abutment is underway.

We have a lot to look forward to this summer. Warm weather is right around the corner and all of the inconveniences and mess caused by these upgrades will be behind us. Thank you for your patience while this important work was being done. The entire board of supervisors appreciates how tolerant our residents have been throughout these projects.

We have recently applied to the Dauphin County Department of Community & Economic Development for a Community Development Block Grant to finance further improvements to the stormwater system in the area of Locust Lane and Java Avenue. Expansion of the project into this area will alleviate flooding that has affected homeowners during heavy rainfalls. We were not able to include these locations in our original stormwater upgrades, but we are cautiously optimistic that we will be awarded these grant funds in time for the project design to be completed in 2013, with the construction taking place in 2014. Because of the location of these projects, they should cause minimal inconvenience to residents but will prevent significant flooding damage to residents in the affected neighborhoods.

Finances

Our focus last year was to work towards restoring the township’s cash reserve fund that was depleted by the the poor economy, the devastating hurricane damage, stormwater upgrades and intersection improvements. The reserve fund serves as a savings account that is utilized for unexpected expenses and to pay bills in the beginning of each year until tax revenue is received. The township was able to bring the reserve up to almost $2,000,000 since last year thru continued frugality and maximum efforts to obtain grant funds to pay for construction projects. It is our goal to continue to add to this reserve fund each year to restore a fund balance of $4 million.

The Department of Community Development will increase their efficiency with software that will effectively manage a variety of data associated with the the department’s approximately 12,950 property files, while allowing the Code Enforcement Officers to access this information remotely, and also enter updates and print certificates, permits, or violations on-site. This software will be of great value when the new Tenant/Landlord Ordinance, which will require owner’s of rental properties to register with the township and to undergo an annual property inspection, is adopted.

The Township remains in a hiring freeze and will only fill positions that become vacant when they are deemed essential positions. Annual reviews for cost savings are performed for health care, workers’ compensation, property, liability insurances, and utilities.

The Township’s Bond rating is AA+, which is an indication of our excellent financial stability and long-term outlook. While we have faced challenges over the last several years, we are financially secure, remain service strong, and have made remarkable improvements to the infrastructure.

The pedestrian tunnel under Chocolate Avenue is now open and the median islands have been constructed. The roadwork on Cocoa Avenue and Chocolate Avenue is done, with the final pavement to be placed in the Spring. Work is now being done on the pedestrian underpass beneath Park Avenue.
Brandon Williams joined the Department of Community Development on May 14, 2012, as the assistant director. Prior to accepting the position with Derry, he was the Zoning and Codes Enforcement Officer with Mount Joy Township since 2007.

Brandon has been surprised by the number of permits, plans and projects that the Township reviews on an annual basis. He said that the number of permits alone is more than double what he reviewed in Mount Joy.

He said, “The residents that I have met have been very welcoming. I am pleased by the amount of public participation and interest in the future of Derry Township, particularly the Comprehensive Plan update process. Being a part of this project and performing the research needed to assist in drafting the first couple of chapters has really helped me understand the history of Hershey. The pride in the community is evident in so many of the residents that I have talked with. I am looking forward my part in this process and also meeting more of the residents of the Township.”

Brandon resides in South Lebanon Township in Lebanon County. He received a Bachelor of Arts in Geography Environmental Studies and graduated with honors from Millersville University. He obtained a Master of Science in Community and Regional Planning from Temple University, and recently successfully completed his American Institute of Certified Planners.

Director Chuck Emerick said, “Brandon has been a great match for the department’s needs. His talents and experience are tailored to the work that we are doing on the Comprehensive Plan.”

Brandon Williams
Assistant Director

Pavone, by popular vote of his peers, was named the Lion’s Club Officer of the Year. He was presented with the award at an honorary dinner held at the Hershey Italian Lodge on January 15th.

Detective Pavone was hired by the Derry Township Police Department in April, 1999. Chief Patrick O’Rourke said, “Tom has always done an outstanding job. This award is a very fitting selection that reflects Tom’s commitment to his family, the organization and the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team.”

Pavone is a graduate of Penn State University where he received a Bachelor of Science in Administration of Justice. He began his career in law enforcement with the Susquehanna Regional Police Department while also working part-time for Mount Joy Borough.

He became a member of the Dauphin County Crisis Response Team as soon as he met the time requirements and became eligible in 2003. He moved to the Criminal Investigative Unit to be a detective in January 2012. He is also a former D.A.R.E. instructor.

Tom resides in Hummelstown with his wife Laura and their three children.

Community Development’s New Assistant Director

Lion’s Club Officer of the Year

Detective Tom Pavone

Thank You For Your Service

We would like the to recognize the following individuals for their service. The contributions that they made as an advisory board member is invaluable to the Township.

Rosemary Marino, Board of Library Directors
Michele Taylor, Board of Library Directors
James Zugay, Municipal Authority
Kenneth Burd, Parks and Recreation Advisory
Mike Corado, Parks and Recreation Advisory
Pete Gleason, Planning Commission

Rosemary served on the Board of Library Directors for nine years and Kenneth Burd was on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for twelve years. They have played a role in the development of many policies, programs, and improvements throughout the years.

Future issues of the Township News will be available at Township facilities on May 2nd, August 8th, and November 7th.
Darrin Robinson is the new Code Enforcement Officer with Derry Township. He has filled the position that was vacant due to the departure of Don Fure, who accepted a position with Lower Swatara Township.

Darrin was a Building and Code Official and Zoning Officer for Londonderry Township for two years and served as the Fire Marshal for Swatara Township for ten years, where he also was the Fire Chief for five volunteer fire companies.

“Darrin not only brings residential building code certifications to his position, but also a vast knowledge of emergency management skills that will prove to be a great compliment to the department,” said Director Chuck Emerick.

Volunteers recently launch a TNR (Trap/Neuter/Release) Program with assistance from the Derry Township Police Department and Steelton Borough’s Community Cat program. Steelton’s program has successfully neutered hundreds of cats. Since the program began in Derry in December, 2012, 60 cats were neutered.

According to the ASPCA, one unspayed cat may produce 14 kittens in a year. Assuming all those cats live and reproduce at that same rate, there are 203 cats by year two, and 2,754 cats by year three, all from one unspayed female. Using cat math, Derry’s program has already prevented the birth of thousands of kittens.

“We want to assist the Derry volunteer group in getting the program up and running to effectively control and diminish the feral cat population in the Township,” said Lt. Garth Warner. “This issue should be handled in the most humane way possible, which is why the SBCC program is so appealing to our efforts. Their program is very successful. The Township also sees the potential to reduce costs and manpower, which is currently expended on this issue.”

Unlike many TNR programs, the Steelton model that Derry is imitating is full-service. Volunteers trap the cats, take them to the Steelton facility until the spay/neuter day, provide the surgery, vaccines and other medical care, and then provide three days of convalescence before returning the cats to their original location.

TNR has been proven to be the best way to reduce the size of feral colonies in the long run. Relocating or euthanizing colonies simply creates a vacuum for new colonies to move in, but TNR programs prevent the pregnancies that cause colonies to grow. Backed by organizations such as the Humane Society of the United States, the ASPCA, and most rescue groups, TNR programs are the most effective and humane way to control community cat populations. Not only do TNR programs effectively control the cat population, they also save money and eliminate the yowling and fighting that most often comes from cats mating, and the spray odor (most often from testosterone in cat urine) is also reduced.

Derry Township residents can take advantage of this free program that will trap, spay or neuter feral cats, and help staunch the flow of unwanted cats in the community by calling 877-4146.

The program is free to Derry Residents, but accepts support through donations, products and time. Tax-deductible donations can be made to SBCC at http://steeltoncats.org/donate.html. Please note “Derry TNR” on the comments line of the PayPal form. A $10 donation provides one cat with vaccinations and medical care.

Paper towels, bleach, cat litter, wet and dry cat food, plastic drop cloths, shower curtain liners, boxes of plastic gloves, disposable puppy training pads, flashlights, clean used sheets and towels, cat litter boxes, and newspaper are always needed and can be dropped off on the front or back porch of 518 W. Chocolate Avenue, Hershey.

Volunteers are being recruited to help to trap, transport, and feed the cats while they are at the surgery center. Please contact Tammy McElfresh at tmcelfresh@comcast.net, if you can give some of your time to the program. Training will be provided.

Call 877-4146
Be Safe

Fire  The Hershey Volunteer Fire Department reminds residents that matches and lighters are the leading cause of fire deaths for children. Never underestimate a child’s curiosity; always keep matches and lighters out of the reach of children. Store them up high, where they cannot be seen, and in a locked cabinet. Never use lighters or matches as a source of amusement for children, as they may imitate what you do. Never leave matches or lighters in a place where children may go without supervision. Only use lighters designed with child resistant features, but remember that child resistant does not mean child proof.

Bikers and Pedestrians  Warm weather means that drivers need to share the road with more bikers and pedestrians. Please watch for people near crosswalks and intersections. Give bike riders four feet of space when passing them. Drive slower in residential areas, where children are likely to be out playing. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration warns us of the risks of speed. If you hit a pedestrian driving 20 mph, 5% will die. At 30 mph, 45% will die; and at 40 mph, 85% will die.

Biking  Bikers should always ride with traffic to increase their visibility, reduce the speed of a potential crash, observe road signs and signals that are oriented toward traffic, and to obey the law and follow the same laws as motorists.

Spring is the perfect time to clean and get organized.

Shred It Event

The next Shred It Event will be held on Saturday, April 13th from 8 am until 11 am, at the Public Works Facility, 650 Clearwater Road. Shredding is the safest way to protect your personal information. Residents may bring up to 4 bags or boxes to be shredded.

Curb and Sidewalk Replacement Program and Road Repairs

The Township once again is offering residents the opportunity to participate in the annual Curb and Sidewalk Program. Through the program, residents receive a lower price to replace their curbs and sidewalks through a collective proposal for all interested residents from one contractor. The Township seeks proposals based on the replacement quantity for all residents who express a desire to participate in the program.

When proposals are received, the participating residents are notified of the cost and have the option of withdrawing from the program or having the work completed. Residents interested in learning more, or participating, please call the Public Works Department at 533-2857, option 4, by April 12th.

Last year, many utility projects were underway, negatively affecting Township roadways. The Public Works Department will recycle and repave these roadways beginning in May. Intersection ramp upgrades will occur where needed, followed by cold in-place recycling of the existing pavement and then a 2” asphalt wearing course will be applied. The streets tentatively scheduled include: East Caracas, East Granada and Para Avenues, Linden Road from Valley to Elm and West Areba Avenue from Linden Road to Mill Street.

What Is Happening? In mytown

The Board of Supervisors approved the following during October, November, and December:

Recommended approval of the Preliminary/Final Subdivision and Land Development Plan for 777 Middletown Road, Plat #1216. The plan proposes 2 phases of improvements: Phase 1 includes a 3,900-square-foot expansion of the Chocolate World building to house improved restroom facilities, an expansion to the existing parking area, and the addition of a new parking area; Phase 2 is a 6,580-square-foot retail/fuel sale store with a single bay car wash on Lot 1. A 2,880-square-foot bank and a 19,200-square-foot, single-story retail/office building are proposed for Lot 2.

Adoption of Resolution No. 1354, which revised certain fees and reinstated other fees for building permits and zoning permits, and amended and established other miscellaneous fees and charges for services provided by Community Development.

Employee Service Awards

2013

Rosa Pellegrini - Parks and Recreation
Ashley Fanning - Parks and Recreation
Patricia Wrightstone - Parks and Recreation
Jennifer Johns - Parks and Recreation
Linda Dunbar - Library
Robert Piccolo - Public Works

20 Years of Service

Nathan Cuba - Police Department
Max Hauck - Public Works
Barbara Nwoke - Library
Keith Ocker - Police Department

15 Years of Service

Lori Karges - Police Department

10 Years of Service

Keith Ocker - Police Department
Waste Matters in Derry Township
The Environmental Action Committee explains the negative effects of using disposable plastic water bottles.

According to the Earth Policy Institute, Americans drank an average of 1.6 gallons of bottled water a year in 1976. Assuming it’s a 12 oz bottle, that would be 17 bottles a year. Today, Americans buy nearly a billion bottles of water every single week (51 billion bottles every year). That’s an average of more than three bottles per week for every man, woman, and child in the country or nearly 160 bottles a year, costing 240 to 10,000 times more than tap water, which is delivered right to the home for pennies a gallon.

Bottled water creates its own share of pollution. The production of plastic bottles consumes barrels of oil each year and transportation of bottled water from its source to retail stores releases thousands of tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. After all that water is gone, only a small percentage of these 51 billion empty bottles are recycled annually. The rest end up in landfills, or worse. Drinking two liters of tap water a day costs only 50 cents per year.

An unknown percentage of water bottles end up as litter along highways, in vacant fields, and in the regular trash. Drinking two liters of tap water a day costs only 50 cents per year. As plastic bottles decay, they can leach harmful chemicals into the ground, potentially polluting the soil and water.

Only about 22% of plastic water bottles used in the United States are recycled. The ones that are recycled are sorted, placed on a conveyor, crushed and bundled for shipment. Specialized companies buy these bundles, chop them into flakes and sell the flakes to companies that produce recycled plastic goods. With a little effort, a lot more recycled plastic could be available as a raw material, extending the life of the oil that was used originally.

Some of the specialized companies make soft plastics needed for reusable shopping bags, tarps and other flexible products. Other companies make hard plastics used in automotive parts, plastic lumber for decking and park benches, railroad ties, furniture, more water bottles, or other household products. There also are companies that produce fibers - the flakes are melted into a liquid, spun into filament as thin as hair, and used to produce wall coverings, fleece clothing, blankets, luggage, bags, carpets and rugs. A one-ton container of flake holds an estimated 20,000 processed water bottles - enough to create fiber to make about 500 T-shirts.

For those facing an emergency like hurricanes Katrina or Sandy, single serving water bottles can be a blessing indeed. But other options provide a better environmental choice for every day. Whatever option you choose for water supply, proper disposal of the container can and must be your choice for the environment and for future generations.

Meeting Your Municipal Needs

Board of Supervisors
Chairman E. Christopher Abruzzo
Kelly C. Fedeli
Marc A. Moyer
Sandra A. Ballard
John W. Foley

johfoley@derrytownship.org
sandyballard@derrytownship.org
marcmoyer@derrytownship.org
kellyfedeli@derrytownship.org
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Board Contact Information
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sandyballard@derrytownship.org
johnfoley@derrytownship.org

Waste Management will collect yard waste the week following the last Saturday of the month, beginning in May through the last week in October. Branches must be bundled and tied or placed in Kraft bags.

Holiday Trash Collection If the holiday is on your regular collection day, your trash and recyclables will be collected the following day. All other collections that week will be on the regular schedule. If the holiday is on Friday, the trash will be collected on Saturday.

Please store trash and recycling totes in your garage, side or back yard.

People Movers provides free transportation for Derry Township senior citizens who are 60+ years old.

Call 717-533-3642 to arrange a ride.

RECYCLING CENTER HOURS
(Effective March 11th through November 4th)

Mon. and Wed.  4 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri. and Sat.  8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

The Center will be closed on Monday, February 18th, and Friday, March 29th.

RECYCLE HOTLINE 533-8665
Call for questions regarding waste disposal and recycling. Items may only be dropped at the Center or picked up during operating hours.

Residents may be required to show proof of residency at the Center.

Holiday Trash Collection If the holiday is on your regular collection day, your trash and recyclables will be collected the following day. All other collections that week will be on the regular schedule. If the holiday is on Friday, the trash will be collected on Saturday.

Please store trash and recycling totes in your garage, side or back yard.

People Movers provides free transportation for Derry Township senior citizens who are 60+ years old.

Call 717-533-3642 to arrange a ride.
**Adult Programs**

**The Befuddled Gardener**

Tuesday, February 19, 6:30 p.m.

Once again, the library will have the pleasure of hosting [George Fiegen], who will answer 10 of the most mystifying yard questions for us. Because the landscape can be an unfamiliar and baffling place to homeowners that are not familiar with plants, he will provide answers to the many surprises and dilemmas that may come along. Registration is necessary online at www.hersheylibrary.org, or by calling the Circulation desk at 533-6555. This event is made possible by the Friends of the Hershey Public Library.

**15th Annual National Library Week**

*Author Caroline Leavitt, Sunday, April 14 at 2:00 p.m.*

Our special guest will discuss her new book, *This Tomorrow*, which will be released on May 7, as well as some of her others. There will also be a *Meet and Greet* for children immediately following the adult presentation. Caroline is the author of The Family Tree and Wishbone Books for children. Registration is required either online at www.hersheylibrary.org or by calling the Circulation desk at 533-6555.

**World Book Night, Tuesday, April 23**

The Hershey Public Library will once again be the pickup point for volunteer "givers" for World Book Night. On this evening, U.S. book givers all across the country will personally hand out a half a million printed books to light or non-readers and/or people who may not have access to printed books for reasons of means or geography. For more information on how to become a "giver" contact the World Book Night website at www.worldbooknight.org.

**Toddlertime and more...**

**Toddlertime** is a series of 20-30 minute interactive programs for children (24 to 36 months) and their caregivers. One child and one adult register together for songs, stories, rhymes, and a joyful introduction to the library. Registration for this limited audience (30 participants) begins March 11; open registration begins March 18.

**For Ones in Your Life** is a four-week series of 20-30 minute interactive programs for walking children (12 to 24) months and their caregivers. Register together for songs, simple stories, nursery rhymes, and action plays.

Tuesday mornings at 9:45 and 10:45 May 7 - May 28

Resident registration begins April 22; open registration begins April 29.

**Storytime** is a six-week series of 30 minute programs designed for children 3 to 5. Storytime provides a structured, literature-based opportunity for children to gain independence. Parents and caregivers are strongly encouraged to use Storytime to fill their own library needs.

**Storytime for 3's and 4's**

Monday mornings at 10:00 March 25 - April 29

Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 March 27 - May 1

Resident registration begins March 11; open registration begins March 18.

**Storytime for 4's and 5's**

Monday afternoons at 1:30 March 25 - April 29

Tuesday mornings at 10:00 March 26 - April 30

Resident registration begins March 11; open registration begins March 18.

**Get a little something special for that someone special. Sessions are broken down by age.**

2:00 to 2:40 ages 2 to 6 (maximum of 30 participants)

3:00 to 3:40 ages 6 and up (maximum of 30 participants)

Registration for this limited audience program will begin on Monday, April 22nd. Register online at www.hersheylibrary.org. Call the Children's Desk at 533-6555, ext. 3768, with questions.

**SPLAT Studio**

This is becoming a Hershey Public Library tradition - Mother's Day art project! Meghan Winslow of SPLAT Studio will help you make a little something special for that someone special. Sessions are broken down by age.

2:00 to 2:40 ages 2 to 6 (maximum of 30 participants)

3:00 to 3:40 ages 6 and up (maximum of 30 participants)

registration for this limited audience program will begin on Monday, April 22nd. Register online at www.hersheylibrary.org. Call the Children's Desk at 533-6555, ext. 3768, with questions.

**Come Play with Us, Wii need You!!**

Wii Game Days continue at the library. Stay for the whole two hours or just while Mom and Dad browse the stacks. No registration is necessary.

**Wii Game Days we Sunday, April 21st and May 19th from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m.**
In 1913, a huge celebration was planned to mark the town's first ten years. The celebration was held on Friday and Saturday, May 30-31, 1913. In preparation, all the public buildings were draped in bunting and American flags lined Chocolate Avenue. Each day, at 7 a.m., the town awoke to the sound of whistles, firecrackers, drums and other noisemakers.

To start the celebration, the anniversary committee delivered a commemorative loving cup to Milton Hershey at his home, High Point. Immediately following the presentation, crowds gathered in the fields by Hershey Park to watch a demonstration of aeronautic stunt flying. Afterwards, residents and employees and their families gathered along Chocolate Avenue for “Hershey's Big Parade.” Featuring 45 floats, the parade included 1,500 participants, hundreds more than the entire population of Hershey.

The rest of the day was filled with concerts, public lectures, thespian performances and a baseball game. The second day was filled with similar events and concluded with a “Big Display of Fireworks” and a concert by the Hershey Band. Huge crowds came to Hershey to join in the celebration. On Friday alone, an estimated 30,000 people came to enjoy the festivities.

The next anniversary Hershey celebrated was its 20th in 1923. Organizers, perhaps remembering the crush of people who overwhelmed Hershey during the 1913 celebration, decided to take a different approach to celebrating Hershey's 20th anniversary. Residents decorated their homes with flags and bunting. Hershey Park was decorated with thousands of colored electric lights. Instead of the revelry and chaotic activity that accompanied the 10th anniversary celebration, organizers planned a very different event for the 1923 anniversary. Two nationally acclaimed musical groups performed during the two-day celebration, June 16-17, 1923. On Saturday, June 16, the Bethlehem (PA) Choir performed twice in the Convention Hall to capacity crowds and hundreds more gathered outside the windows to listen to the concert. The Great Creator's Band also presented two concerts in the Bandshell on Saturday and again on Sunday.

In recognition of the town’s 20th anniversary, Milton Hershey arranged for a roller coaster to be built in Hershey Park. Opening on Saturday, June 16, the roller coaster [soon to be known as the “Wild Cat”] was an immediate success. The newspaper reported that the coaster was thronged with riders, some of whom had to be “dislodged by use of a crowbar, in order to give others a chance.” The entire park was filled to overflowing. Over 50,000 people participated in the two-day celebration.

Hershey's first two anniversary celebrations were so successful that it was inevitable the community's 30th birthday would be recognized. Coming during the depths of the Great Depression, the celebration was more modest in scale.

Held over Labor Day weekend, September 1-3, 1933, the 30th anniversary celebration began with the dedication of the newly completed Hershey Community Theatre. Organ concerts for children and adults, stage shows and movie presentations were some of the highlights of the weekend.

Celebratory events were also held in Hershey Park. The Allentown Band presented free concerts in the Bandshell on Sunday and Monday afternoons and Hershey Park Ballroom patrons danced to nationally known big bands both Saturday and Monday nights.

The celebration also included the launch of the Hershey Open, Hershey's first professional golf tournament. Impressed with Hershey's golf courses, the PGA had encouraged Hershey to establish a tournament. Drawing some of the sport's best golfers with its $1,500 purse, the new tournament brought national attention to the community.

In 1943, the United States was in the midst of World War II when Hershey's 40th anniversary arrived. In deference to wartime restrictions, Hershey did not acknowledge this anniversary.

In 1953, Hershey reached the half-century mark. This time, the celebration was not confined to a single weekend. Instead, events were held throughout the year. In addition, the anniversary theme was incorporated into many community annual events such as the Halloween Parade, Dutch Days and the Hershey Rose Garden Tulip Festival.

Some of Hershey's special events for the year included hosting the National Figure Skating Championship at the Hershey Park Arena. This event brought the top amateur skaters and national attention to Hershey. Many special concerts were held in Hershey throughout the year, including performances by the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra, the United States Navy Band, which performed two concerts to an estimated crowd of 20,000 people and a headline concert held in May featuring the Woody Herman and Louis Jordan orchestras with singers Frankie Laine and Ella Fitzgerald.
Training has always been an integral part of the Hershey Volunteer Fire Company. Fire Company records show that the first fire training drill was held on September 9, 1905, only ten days after the Company organized. Today, weekly training sessions, or fire drills, are held every Monday evening. Additional training is held on weekends throughout the year. Weekly training sessions last around three hours and include classroom drills, tours of area buildings, and most often hands-on training with equipment and apparatus. Operation of the Company’s fire apparatus requires specialized driver training. Fire Company members also participate in courses provided by The Pennsylvania State Fire Academy. The academy establishes the curriculum and accredits instructors to deliver these courses at the local level.

Currently, new firefighters begin their local level fire training with the Entry Level Firefighter curriculum consisting of four courses. Module I, Introduction to the Fire Service, is 16 hours and is designed to provide the entry-level firefighter with basic knowledge and skills to begin their fire service career.

Module II, Fireground Support, is a 48 hour course that prepares firefighters to handle fire ground and hazardous materials scene operations. It introduces new firefighters to basic information including fire behavior, portable fire extinguishers, water supply, fire hose and appliances, and hazardous materials.

Module III, Exterior Firefighter, is a 42 hour program covering exterior fire ground operations. Module IV, Interior Firefighter, is a 60 hour course involving fire service operations such as rescue, ventilation, fire suppression, and salvage.

After completing this introductory training, members then work towards a State Fire Fighter I certification, which is intensive training to meet standards set by the National Fire Protection Association. Firefighters that achieve this level of certification can then proceed to advance to Firefighter II certification.

Over one hundred additional specialized training courses are offered by local level state instructors. A number of fire company personnel have completed many of these programs such as truck operations, firefighter survival, incident command, and a rapid intervention. This intensive training enables the Fire Company to provide the best possible fire protection and rescue services to the community.
3rd Annual Ice Skating Party

It's that time of year again! The Historical Society and the Brownstone Masonic Lodge team up to offer the 3rd Annual Ice Skating Party at the historic HersheyPark Arena. Sharpen your blades and bundle up for a night of indoor winter fun on Friday, February 15, 2013, from 7pm to 9pm.

“This is the most affordable family fun night of the year,” stated Nicole Soliday, Executive Director of the Historical Society. “For five dollars, folks can meet, greet and skate with Coco the Bear, attend a Zamboni and ice making demonstration, and enjoy treats provided by the Masonic Lodge. It’s a great deal and benefits our community organizations.”

Tours of the old arena will be provided during the evening. “Skating is optional,” said Soliday. “Not everyone wants to don the skates, but everyone could enjoy a tour of the old barn and revel in its grandeur. It represents so many fond memories of our local history.”

All proceeds from the event benefit both the Historical Society and Brownstone Masonic Lodge. The admission price is $5 in advance at the Historical Society and through the Society’s website, www.hersheyhistory.org, or $7 at the door and includes skate rentals, tours, lectures and light refreshments. Children under five skate free. Parking will be available at no charge. Please enter the Arena at Box Office 4. Call the Historical Society at 717-520-0748 or visit info@hersheyhistory.org, for more information.

EXHIBIT OPENING

From B’ars to Bears: A Chocolate and White History of Hockey

In honor of the Hershey Bears 75th anniversary, the Historical Society will formally present its newest exhibit, From B’ars to Bears: A Chocolate and White History of Hockey. Celebrating the history of our community’s beloved hockey franchise, this exhibit presents a selection of items from the inception of the B’ars through the present day. From pucks and programs to the “original ice-resurfacer,” the Historical Society’s Bears’ collection will be displayed, representing over 80 years of Hershey hockey and the notable personalities who helped to create the legacy.

Join us on Saturday, February 16, 2013, from 5 to 7 pm for a private reception, featuring comments and reflections from Bears’ alumni and other individuals associated with the franchise.

Suggested reception donation: $15
RSVP by February 13th by calling the Historical Society at 717-520-0748 or send an email at info@hersheyhistory.org.

Hershey-Derry Township Historical Society, 40 Northeast Drive, Hershey, PA 17033
(717) 520-0748

Playhouse Opens 14th Season with Romantic Farce

Hershey Area Playhouse opens its 14th season with the classic French bedroom farce, A Flea in her Ear, February 14-17 and 21-24, 2013. Adapted by David Ives from the original play written by George Feydeau in 1907, the farce centers on the sexual pairings and recombining of characters moving through improbable plots. Feydeau is probably the most famous playwright of bedroom farce, with his collection of coincidences, slamming doors, and ridiculous dialogue having delighted Parisian theatre audiences at the turn of the twentieth century and beyond.

A Flea in her Ear features Rob Kopko, Dana Kinsey, Keith Alcorn, John Messmer, Susan Wray Danowitz, Michael Kirby, John Mallonee, Ed Reazer, Marie De La Hoz, Michael Lazorchik, Colleen Mullikin, Valerie Schrader, Malcolm Cohen and Steve Dincau. The show is produced by Michele Robertson, assistant produced by Pam Rohrbach and stage managed by Chris Sapelli.

Shows are at 7:30 p.m., Thursdays through Saturdays and at 2 p.m. on Sunday. Tickets are $20 for adults and $17 for students 12 and under. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit www.HersheyAreaPlayhouse.com or call the box office at 717-533-8525.

Check out theatre classes for children and adults, including a new directing class for adults coming in March.
Celebrate the season of love with someone special at the Hershey Symphony Orchestra’s next concert, “Forbidden Love (&Sax)” at The Hershey Theatre, Friday, February 15, 2013, at 8 p.m.

The concert features one of the country’s foremost woodwind artists, Chris Vadala, who is in demand as a jazz/clas-
sical performer and educator. Mr. Vadala has appeared on more than 100 recordings to date, as well as innumerable
jingle sessions, film and TV scores. His performing career has been highlighted by a long tenure as standout wood-
wind artist with the internationally recognized Chuck Mangione Quartet.

The concert features the selections including: Tchaikowsky's Waltz from Sleeping Beauty, Leonard Bernstein’s
Symphonic Dances from West Side Story and romantic Jazz favorites including Georgia, In a Sentimental Mood,
Take the 'A' Train, and Chuck Mangione’s A Feel of a Vision with Chris Vadala, Saxophone.

Tickets are $18 for adults, $15 for seniors, and $10 for students (12 and older). Children 11 and under are admitted
free. Tickets are available for purchase through The Hershey Theatre website (www.hersheytheatre.com), by calling
the box office at 717-534-3405, or in person during box office hours. Season tickets are available on the Hershey

The community is invited to step back in time to the great supper clubs of the 1930s at the Hershey Symphony
Orchestra Moonlight Serenade Gala, April 6, 2013, at The Hershey Lodge.

The evening features a dinner and dancing with The Hershey Symphony Orchestra and The Hershey Symphony Big
Band. The benefit event includes live music throughout the night, a beginner dance lesson, a dinner, exhibition
dancing, entertainment, silent auction and cash bar. Dress is Black-tie optional and vintage attire is encouraged. All
proceeds benefit the music and outreach of the Hershey Symphony Orchestra.

The Hershey Symphony Orchestra is a charitable 501(c)3 organization. The eighty volunteer musicians come from a
wide area of south central Pennsylvania and represent many professions. For more than 40 years, the Symphony
has contributed to the cultural richness of the Hershey community through subscription concerts, youth education
programs, a young artist competition, and special performances at community locations.

The Gala is the largest fundraising event of the Hershey Symphony year. More than 500 people are expected to attend. Individual tickets are $95 each, but discounts are available for tables as well as season subscribers. To pur-
chase tickets, learn about becoming a sponsor and donating auction items, please visit

Representative John Payne will host a free Senior Health Fair on Friday, April 26th, from 9:00 a.m. to
noon at the Hummertown Chemical Fire Company, 249 East Main Street, Hummertown. This event will
provide an opportunity for area senior citizens to gather valuable information about services and pro-
grams available to older Pennsylvanians. Health care experts, representatives from various state agencies and
other exhibitors will be on hand to answer questions and discuss issues of importance to seniors. In addition to
senior citizens residing in the 106th district, friends, family members or caregivers are welcome to attend. For more
information about the Senior Health Fair, contact Representative Payne’s District Office at 534-1323.

Kiss Hershey Back will have a FREE breakfast before the clean-up from 8 am to 11 am at the Hershey Medical Center Campus. Lend a hand to pick up litter and keep Derry Township’s parks, green-
ways, and along rural roads beautiful.

Sign up to volunteer at www.kiss hershey back.blogspot.com/