

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

Special points of interest:

- The Township Office will be closed:
- November 25 & 26—Thanksgiving Holiday
- December 24—Christmas Day (observed)
- December 31—New Years Day (observed)

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KENNELS - KLEARING THE KONFUSION

In light of recent requests and incidents, Heidelberg Township would like to provide information regarding the keeping of dogs on properties. Since the rules and descriptions of this practice are housed within the Township zoning ordinance, we asked zoning officer Barry Wagner to put together an overview of what is allowed and what requires more involved planning.

The Heidelberg Township Zoning Ordinance allows each individual residential property in Heidelberg Township to have no more than three (3) dogs that are more than six (6) months old. Any intended use that would result in more than three (3) dogs on a property would be subject to the definition of a kennel as it appears in the Zoning Ordinance.

The Zoning Ordinance defines a kennel as "facilities for housing more than three (3) dogs that are more than six (6) months old." The Zoning Ordinance also provides a distinction between boarding kennels and breeding kennels. The distinction between the two are also defined in the Zoning Ordinance and appears below:

A. BOARDING KENNEL. A facility available to the general public,

where more than three (3) dogs are boarded for a specified period of time or housed for training purposes. This shall also include facilities operated by a licensed veterinarian in the treatment of animals.

B. BREEDING KENNEL. A facility operated for the purpose of breeding, buying, selling or in any way transferring more than three (3) dogs for research or non-research purposes.

While every residential property in the Township is entitled to have up to three (3) dogs, the number of properties where a boarding or breeding kennel are considerably more limited. Kennels, both boarding and breeding, are permitted only within the Agricultural District (A) and the Agricultural Transitional District (AT) when a special exception is approved by the Heidelberg Township Zoning Hearing Board. The proposed kennel owner must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Zoning Hearing Board that the boarding or breeding kennel conforms to all provisions contained within Section 1930. of the Zoning Ordinance that specifically addresses kennels and Section 1916. of the Zoning Ordinance which contains the requirements for a farm-based business.

It is important to note that a breeding kennel is only be permitted on a property of twenty-five acres or more where the primary economic activity shall be agriculture. A boarding kennel may be located on tracts of two (2) acres or greater, provided that the use is limited to not more than twenty-five (25) adult dogs. The minimum lot size for boarding kennels housing more than twenty-five (25) adult dogs must be increased by one (1) additional acre for every twenty-five (25) adult dogs or portion thereof.

There are multiple other requirements within Section 1916. and 1930. of the Zoning Ordinance that must be considered, but this space prohibits the inclusion of all of these requirements. Barry Wagner is the Heidelberg Township Zoning Officer and is available to answer any questions or provide residents with a more detailed list of the requirements. He is available during daytime business hours at 717-625-0444 or via e-mail at brwconsultants@outlook.com.

- Barry Wagner



*Thanksgiving
blessings to
you and yours.
May your
table and
heart be full
with the joys
of giving
thanks.*



OWNER-TENANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION

With the growing number of residences that are not owner-occupied within the Township, in 2012 the Board of Supervisors passed Ordinance 135 for registration of tenants. This ordinance was enacted to verify what adults are living in a home if they are not the property owners and contact information for those residences.

Owners of these type of properties are required to periodically update the names of each adult 18 years of age or older living in a residence if the occupant is not

the owner themselves. There are multiple reasons this information is required by the Township. First, Earned Income Tax is allocated to the municipality a person lives in. Although most employers complete their tax filings denoting this information, there are instances where this is not the case. With the tenant information, we can spot check the Earned Income Tax allocations if necessary. Also, if the tenant-occupied home is in the public utility service area, this information can help us to contact a resident should there be an interruption of service or emer-

gency. Please note that there is no cost to the property owner for having the units or the registration.

If you are a property owner of a home that you do not reside in, you can find the Tenant Registration form on the Township website, www.heidelbergtownship.com. Look for it under the Government tab, Documents & Downloads. Otherwise, you can email the Township Office at htutility188@gmail.com and the form can be mailed to you. Thank you for your assistance!

Christmas Tree recycling will once again take place at the Township Building beginning December 26th. Look for the Drop Off sign to indicate where to put them. Thank you!

FIREWORK REGULATION REMINDERS

Although many people find fireworks synonymous with Fourth of July celebrations, the uses for fireworks have expanded to include many other holidays and special events like birthdays and marriages. To inform users that are now able to purchase a larger variety of fireworks, to follow are some highlights of the current State regulations.

Residents 18 years of age or older are now eligible to purchase Class "C" or Consumer Grade Fireworks at a retailer authorized to sell them. Consumer Grade Fireworks contain a maximum of 50 milligrams of explosive material. Display Fireworks, categorized as salutes having 130 milligrams of explosive material or aerial shells containing more than 60 grams of pyrotechnic material, are still only able to be used by professionals with the correct licensing and permits.

In Pennsylvania, fireworks cannot be discharged...

- On a public or private property without express permission of the property owner.

- From or within a motor vehicle or building.

- Toward a motor vehicle or building.

- Within 150 feet of an occupied structure (home or business), whether or not a person is actually present.

- While the person discharging them is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.

Since these regulations were enacted by PA State Law, the PA State Police would have jurisdiction in enforcing the regulations. If you wish to read

the specific language of the Act, feel free to look up House Bill 542 or Act 43 of 2017.

If you plan on creating a special firework display this holiday season, please abide by the rules so everyone can remain safe and enjoy their beauty.



LIONESS LIONS ORGANIZATION SERVES COMMUNITY

The Heidelberg Lioness organization is a wonderful resource located right here in our community.

When the Heidelberg Lions organization disbanded, the Lioness organization moved to assume some of their responsibilities and are now called the Heidelberg Lioness Lions. One of the biggest community service organizations in the country, they support many groups including the Leader Dogs for the Blind, various Diabetes organizations, Wounded Warriors, Wreaths Across America, Christian Ministries, Lebanon Rescue Mission and Wernersville State Hospital. Through fundraising,

the Heidelberg Lioness Lions are able to provide scholarship opportunities to ELCO students as well. Fundraising events scheduled for 2022 include a chicken BBQ and possibly a scholarship bingo. For 2021, the Lioness plan once again to hold their annual Christmas Bazaar located in the St. Paul's UCC Social Hall on North Carpenter Street. This event is scheduled to be held on Saturday, December 4th and features many local artisans and baked goodies.

If you are interested in being a part of the Heidelberg Lioness Lions organization, please call Rachael Mock at (717) 628-5476 or Vicki Will at (717) 679-0758. They are always looking for supporting members to

continue in the tradition of aid, service and community.



Our very own kilt deer nest located in the stones at the Township Building. Thanks to Jean Rowe for spotting the little guys so we could isolate their nest for safety.

MEETING DATES FOR 2022

The 2022 Township Meeting dates for various boards are scheduled as follows. Changes will be posted on the township website.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS - 7:00 PM

Jan 3 - Reorganization & Regular Order of Business

Jan 25 July 26

Feb 22 Aug 23

March 22 Sept 27

April 26 Oct 25

May 24 Nov 15

June 28 Dec 20

BOARD OF AUDITORS - 7:00 PM

Tuesday, Jan. 4

PLANNING COMMISSION - 7:00 PM

Meetings held the 3rd Monday of each Month

ZONING HEARING BOARD - 7:00 PM (as needed)

Meetings held the 4TH Wednesday of each month

PARK & RECREATION BOARD - 7:00PM (as needed)

Meetings TBD—look for official dates on the Township website



**Wishing all
Township
residents a
safe and
wonderful
Holiday
Season.**

**Please enjoy
the people
that mean the
most to you.**

**Board of
Supervisors**

HEIDELBERG HAPPENINGS

Heidelberg Township
111 Mill Road
PO Box 188
Schaefferstown, PA 17088

Phone: 717-949-3885
Fax: 717-949-2915
E-mail: htac@comcast.net
www.heidelbergtownship.com

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UPCOMING EVENTS IN HEIDELBERG TOWNSHIP

Schaefferstown Fire Company

AYCE Breakfast

Various Dates Saturday, 7 AM– 11 AM

Fire Hall, 200 N. Locust St, Schaefferstown

Look for upcoming dates on the Schaefferstown Volunteer Fire Company Facebook page!

Heidelberg Lioness Lions

Christmas Bazaar

Saturday, December 4th, 8 AM–1 PM

St. Paul's UCC Social Hall, 115 N Carpenter St

Free Admission

Historic Schaefferstown

Christkindlmarkt

Friday, December 10th 4 PM-8 PM and Saturday, December 11th 9 AM–3 PM

St. Paul's UCC Social Hall, 115 N Carpenter St

Free Admission

