

# Plumstead Township

BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Fall 2024

## GOODBYE ANGELA BENNER

Sometimes in life, superior job performance leads to unexpected opportunities at higher levels. Such is the case with our Township Manager Angela Benner who has accepted a position with Warrington Township. During her time in Plumstead, Angela had a stellar record of solving problems and improving staff performance with innovative approaches. To list her accomplishments would take an entire newsletter.

During her four plus years of employment with Plumstead, she was somewhat hampered by having to deal with four brand new supervisors. But through her excellent work ethic and attention to detail, she developed a method to keep the supervisors fully informed and well prepared for the Board of Supervisors meetings. Also, Angela improved the Supervisors' efficiency by condensing the meetings to only one per month instead of the customary two.

To say Angela will be missed is an understatement. But her excellent job performance opened a door to an advanced opportunity with a larger township. To progress in one's career one must be always open to new challenges and Warrington Township certainly represents one of those challenges.

We will miss not only her job performance but her engaging personality as well. At the July 10th meeting, her last meeting with the Township, the Board of Supervisors and the Director of Public Works both expressed their appreciation of Angela and wished her well in future endeavors. It is not just the loss of a leader and colleague, but also that of a friend.



## WELCOME BACK STACEY MULHOLLAND

Stacey Mulholland will return to Plumstead as the Township Manager effective August 12, 2024. For the past several years she has been the Manager for Wrightstown Township so she brings experienced leadership to Plumstead. Stacey had been a Supervisor, including several years as Chair of the Board of Supervisors, for Plumstead for fourteen years so she certainly is familiar with our township operations and goals. Her career has included many leadership positions in the political, legal, and non-profit worlds. She is also currently the Executive Director of the Bucks County Association of Township Officials. Stacey has been a Plumstead resident for over twenty years and is well known throughout the township. She acknowledges that this is an ideal position for her.

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# Plumstead Township Information

## Contact Information

Township Office  
 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 Telephone: 215-766-8914 • Fax: 215-766-9831  
 www.plumstead.org  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Police Department  
 5186 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 Office: 215-766-8741 • Dispatch: 215-766-8740  
 Fax: 215-766-8509  
 For EMERGENCY Dial 911  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM or by appointment

Public Works Department  
 Floyd S. Bryan Public Works Center  
 5119 Stump Road, Pipersville, PA 18947  
 Office: 215-766-0189 • Fax: 215-766-1439  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Water Department  
 Billing Questions: 215-766-0189  
 Repairs & Maintenance: 215-766-0189  
 For after hours service disruption or non-emergency issues of concern, please contact Police Dispatch at 215-766-8740. Identify yourself as a Plumstead Township Water Department customer.

Tax Collector - Sherry Labs  
 6162 German Road, P.O. Box 433, Plumstead, PA 18949  
 Telephone: 215-766-3785  
 Hours: Tuesday & Thursday 9:30 AM - 4:00 PM

State Senator Steven Santarsiero:  
 Senate District 10  
 Building 100, Suite 121  
 2003 Lower State Road, Doylestown, PA 18901  
 (215) 489-5000 • Fax: (215) 345-1361

State Representative - Shelby Labs  
 Silo Hill Professional Building, 1032 N. Easton Road, Doylestown, PA  
 Telephone: 215-489-2126  
 Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM

## Board of Supervisors:

**Chairman** Jim McComb  
**Vice Chairman** Dan Hilferty  
**Asst. Secretary** Greg Bankos  
**Asst. Treasurer** Matt Given  
**Member** Ken Lichtenstein

## Administrative Staff

**Township Manager:** Stacy Mulholland  
**Assistant Township Manager / Zoning Officer:** Steve Hicks  
**Assistant to Township Manager & AP:** Debbie DiAngelo  
**Accounts Receivable:** Virginia Bowling  
**Municipal Administrator:** Michelle Storti  
**Director of Public Works:** Alan Bleam  
**PW Administrative Assistant & Water Billing:** Pam Gravel  
**Chief of Police:** David Mettin  
**Police Dept. Administrative Assistant:** Sarah Ferri  
**Police Clerk:** Jennifer Bodder  
**Code Enforcement:** Keystone Municipal Services - Phil Neas  
**Fire Marshal:** Jeff Gouldey

## Meetings:

**The Board of Supervisors** meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each Month at 7PM (except where otherwise noted).  
**The Planning Commission** meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7PM.  
**The Zoning Hearing Board** meets at the call of the Chairman.  
**The Environmental Advisory Council** meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM.  
 All meetings are held at the Township Building unless otherwise noted on the Township calendar.



1. **Concert in the Park / Duelings Pianos** .....8/16
2. **Concert in the Park / Funkin Soul Nuts**..... 9/6
3. **Blood Drive at Hanusey** ..... 9/9
4. **Community Day (Movie Night/Touch-a-Truck)** .....9/28
5. **Trick or Treat** .....10/26 (Rain date 10/27)
6. **Annual Tree Lighting**..... 12/6 (Rain date 12/7)
7. **Blood Drive at Hanusey**..... 12/16

## Prevent Home Electrical Fires



**Did you know?**  
 Electrical malfunction is a leading cause of home fires year after year.

Share these electrical fire safety tips in your community:

- Electrical work should only be done by a qualified electrician.
- Check your electrical cords. If they are cracked or damaged, replace them. Don't try to repair them.
- Don't overload extension cords or wall outlets.
- Never use extension cords with appliances. Plug them directly into wall outlets.

For more information and free fire-safety resources, visit [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov).






# PUBLIC WORKS

## ROADSIDE TREE RESPONSIBILITY

Several heavy storm events in March and April continued to bring down dead trees along property owners road frontage. As a reminder to all residents, the maintenance and care of trees along township roads, even though located within the right-of-way, are the responsibility of the individual property owner.

Trees should be monitored along your property road frontage and special attention should be given to dead and dying trees with regard to safety for motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians.

Residents in developments are responsible for trimming trees that overhang sidewalks for the safety of pedestrians.

Public Works crews that were out during the storm events dealt with hazards of falling trees where tops and limbs fell into the travel lane of a road, some directly near their work to maintain open and safe roads. The hazard presented by trees like this is of serious concern.

Trees identified as hazardous by the township arborist will be addressed on a case-by-case basis with the individual property owner needing to take responsibility for the danger presented.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## NOTICE OF LEAF COLLECTION

All residents are encouraged to compost leaf waste on site. However, residents that would like to recycle leaf waste can do so with Public Works for pick-up as noted below. Due to PA DEP recycling regulations for the Township, no permits for burning of leaf waste will be issued. Pick up will be as per the attached schedule only.



### LEAF WASTE

Leaf waste will be collected during October, November and December annually (or as season dictates). Crews will collect leaves on each road once, in all three zones on a road by road basis until complete. Leaf waste pick up will begin Monday morning and continue through the week until the round of all scheduled areas is completed.

Leaf pick up will be completed with a self-contained leaf vacuum truck with a single operator. No raking will be done and leaves must be placed within reach of the vacuum arm (hose) mounted on the truck (no more than 6' from the edge of the road/curb).

### IMPORTANT SPECIFICATIONS

Leaf waste is to be raked into uniform rows/piles within six (6) feet of the edge of the road OR placed in biodegradable paper bags (available in most hardware and home improvement stores) at the edge of the road or driveway. These bags will be emptied and only the leaves will be taken. Public Works will not dispose of the biodegradable bags. The bags will be left behind for re-use or disposal by the resident. Leaves placed in plastic bags WILL NOT be accepted. Plastic bags will not be emptied by Public Works. Leaf piles should not obstruct storm drain ditches or facilities when rainfall is forecast.

### TENTATIVE 2024 LEAF PICK-UP SCHEDULE:

COLLECTION ZONE	FIRST COLLECTION	SECOND COLLECTION	FINAL COLLECTION
1	WEEK OF OCTOBER 21	WEEK OF NOVEMBER 11	WEEK OF DECEMBER 2
2	WEEK OF OCTOBER 28	WEEK OF NOVEMBER 18	WEEK OF DECEMBER 9
3	WEEK OF NOVEMBER 4	*WEEK OF NOVEMBER 25	WEEK OF DECEMBER 16

\*DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY WEEK, COMPLETION OF ZONE 3/SECOND COLLECTION MAY OCCUR DURING THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 2.

The Plumstead Township Public Works Department appreciates your cooperation.

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## SERGEANT MAJOR SUSAN SUBER

Sen. Santarsiero's staff member, Nancy Adams, presenting National Young Marine of the Year winner, Sergeant Major Susan Suber, with a citation from the State Senate, as well as a flag that flew over the Capitol.



*Congratulations*

## NORTH WALES WATER AUTHORITY

The Board of Supervisors is pleased to announce the recent completion of an important water system interconnection with the North Wales Water Authority. (NWWA) This interconnection, located near the intersection of Ferry Road and Route 313, was approved several years ago for the primary purpose of providing a reliable supply of safe and clean water from the Forest Park Water Treatment Plant, for distribution and use within our community.

As of this writing, the Carriage Hill community in Plumstead Township is being served by the water produced out of the Forest Park Plant. A planned interconnection from Carriage Hill to Patriots Ridge will eventually bring the Patriots Ridge community online. Long range planning by Plumstead Township includes interconnection from Patriots Ridge to the Summer Hill and Summer Meadow developments. This interconnection will provide redundancy and increase system stability.

The NWWA and the Forest Park Plant now provide water to over 100,000 retail and wholesale customers in over 15 municipalities in Bucks and Montgomery Counties. The Forest Park Plant is a state-of-the-art water treatment facility that recently announced its achievement of the prestigious Area-Wide Optimization Program (AWOP) Award for the 17th year in a row. This award, issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, recognizes exemplary efforts by water treatment plants in delivering safe and high-quality drinking water to the communities they serve.

Robert C. Bender, NWWA Executive Director, stated that Plumstead Township has already become a valuable and respected partner in providing a high quality and reliable water supply to homes, businesses, and fire protection hydrants in their combined service areas.

Further information about the NWWA is available at [www.nwwater.com](http://www.nwwater.com).

Information about the Plumstead public water system is available at <https://www.plumstead.org/waterabout.html>

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## PLUMSTEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT



### PLUMSTEAD POLICE DEPARTMENT HIRES NEW OFFICER



At the May 8th Board of Supervisors meeting, Makenzie McGowan was sworn in as a full-time police officer by Magisterial District Judge Gary Gambardella.

Makenzie is a 2020 graduate of the Bucks County Technical High School in Fairless Hills Pennsylvania where she focused on policing, firefighting and emergency medical services through the Emergency Services Program. After graduation, Makenzie attended Thomas Jefferson University, majoring in Biomedical Sciences. In 2023, she enrolled in the Temple University Police Academy, graduating in October of 2023.

Makenzie has worked with the Bensalem School District as a swim instructor and with the Brightview Senior Living Center as a resident assistant. Makenzie also worked at Sesame Place as a Sergeant in the Security Department. She is a certified instructor in the Management of Aggressive Behavior and holds several certificates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – National

Incident Command System. Makenzie had been employed by the Tullytown Borough Police Department as a part-time police officer since October of 2023.

Makenzie is a welcomed addition to the police department!

### LIEUTENANT RICHARD W. FREDERICK

Richard W. Frederick grew up in the Doylestown area and graduated from Central Bucks East High School in 1976. He attended the Bucks County Community College earning an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. In 1981, he received a Bachelor's of Science Degree from Trenton State College, now The College of New Jersey.

Frederick was employed with the County of Bucks as an Investigator for the Domestic Relations Section from 1982-1984. Frederick was initially employed with Plumstead Township as a part-time police officer in 1982. In 1984, he became a full-time officer with the department. Frederick was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 1987. Trained as a Traffic Accident Reconstructionist, Frederick created the department's Major Accident Incidents Division in 1988.

Frederick was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 1994 and later to his current rank of Lieutenant in 2018. Over the years, Frederick has received numerous certifications in the area of law enforcement. He enjoys, and has been actively involved, in the department's community service programs of "Shop with a Cop", "Pack the Patrol Car" and Law Enforcement Night.

In addition to his duties with the Plumstead Police Department, Frederick has been an inspector with the Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) for twenty-five years. He was a founding member of the Bucks County Major Incident Response Team (M.I.R.T.) in 2004 and is currently the Deputy Commander of the team. A member of the Bucks County Fraternal Order of Police, Frederick is actively involved in the organization and has held the position of Financial Secretary for the past 24 years.

Snowmobiling has been a long-time hobby of Rich's and he is always looking forward to the winter months. He thoroughly enjoys his snowmobiling vacations with friends and family, often traveling to the New York Adirondacks, Maine and Canada. Rich enjoys many other activities and spending time working on projects with his children often at his property in Perry County, PA.







## PLUMSTEAD TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT EARNS RE-ACCREDITED STATUS

On July 23rd, 2024, the Plumstead Township Police Department received its re-accreditation at the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association's annual conference in Erie Pennsylvania. The department has earned accredited status since July 2021 and is proud to join over 140 other professional police agencies in Pennsylvania which have worked to become accredited.

Accreditation is a progressive and time-proven way of helping police departments evaluate and improve overall performance by ensuring compliance to over 130 standards resulting in best practices for our police department. Independent assessors came to the Department, evaluated each policy and then ensured compliance by evaluating reports, records, training and numerous internal documents. Assessors met with officers, toured Department facilities and evaluated equipment.

The accreditation process was a true team effort. During the accreditation assessment, many officers took part in preparing areas of expertise for the assessors to review and evaluate. It is a credit to each officer in the department, showing their hard work and commitment to the department and police professionalism.

### Benefits of Accreditation

- Establishes a credible framework for evaluating agency practices and procedures
- Reduces agency risk and exposure to lawsuits
- Decreases some liability insurance expenditures
- Improves law enforcement – community relations
- Increases employee input, interaction and confidence in the agency
- Enlarges the outlook and viewpoints of managers, officers and employees
- Identifies and highlights the capabilities and competence of the agency
- Furnishes a solid foundation for the agency to build upon for further progress
- Provides reliable methods to improve essential management procedures
- Extends agency accountability to the public and elected officials
- Enhances planning and innovative activities by all agency personnel
- Develops improved methods for providing services to the community
- Encourages problem-solving activities within the agency



## SAVE THE DATE: JOIN POINT PLEASANT FIRE COMPANY #1 IN CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SERVICE!

Point Pleasant Fire Company #1 is excited to announce its upcoming 100th anniversary celebration, marking a century of dedication, volunteerism and community service. All members of our community are invited to join us for a memorable afternoon filled with free food, refreshing drinks, and fun games and activities. This celebration is our way of expressing our gratitude to the community for your continuous support throughout the years.

**Date & Time:** September 14, 2024, 12pm to 4pm

**Location:** Point Pleasant Fire Company, 6500 Point Pleasant Pike

**Please save the date, mark your calendars, and spread the word!** For further details and updates, visit our website [www.engine41.com](http://www.engine41.com) or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

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## VETERANS COMMITTEE

The temperature was in the mid 80's at 10:00 AM on June 15th, 2024. We found some shade at the bridge on Old Easton Road by the Water Wheel Tavern so it made for a perfect day for a bridge dedication. The dedication of that bridge was the fourth in a series of five bridge dedications in memory of Plumstead residents who lost their lives serving our country.

The bridge on Old Easton Road, over the Pine Run, was dedicated to the memory of Specialist 4th Class Clifford Dale VanArtsdalen US Army, an 18 year old soldier who lost his life in Vietnam on May 9, 1968. Clifford was the point man on a patrol about 20 miles west of Tam Ky in the Republic of South Vietnam when his unit came under heavy enemy fire. Clifford was mortally wounded by small weapons fire and grenades. His body could not be recovered due to the heavy enemy presence in the area. Clifford remains missing to this day.

The Plumstead Township Veterans Committee conducted the dedication which featured prayers by our Chaplain, Public Works Director Alan Bleam, guest speakers Young Marine Sergeant Major Susan Suber (the 2024 national Young Marine of the Year), and Duke Davis, a former member



of the same unit as Clifford. Representative Shelby Labs presented members of Clifford's family with a citation from the PA House of Representatives, and she also presented a citation, on behalf of Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick who could not attend. Patriotic songs were performed by Spencer Productions. Scott Albert played the prelude on the bagpipes.

Clifford's bio was presented by Aaron Gottshall and Michelle Harvey of the Veterans Committee. Students of the Operation Eternal Gratitude Club of Central Bucks High School East unveiled the signs dedicating the bridge to Clifford. A replica sign was presented to the family.

These memorial bridges stand as permanent reminders of the honoree's courage, sacrifice, and dedication to our country. As we cross the bridges that have been dedicated, we should take a moment to reflect on these men's service, the hearts they touched, the courage they personified and the lives they lived. In this way, they will not be forgotten.

The next bridge dedication will be for Sergeant Leonard Skoniecki, USMC. The bridge is over the Pine Run on Burnt House Hill Road. It is scheduled for September 14, 2024.

## LPEAC COMMITTEE

### Fun Land Preservation Facts and Figures

#### Did you know?

- There are more than 3,800 acres permanently preserved in Plumstead Township.
- Protected lands include privately-owned land preserved with conservation easements that were purchased or donated, as well as parkland and open space established as part of planned developments.
- Over 2,500 acres in Plumstead Township are protected through conservation easements. These conservation easements are held by Township, County and/or nonprofit land trust organizations.
- The first conservation easement in Plumstead Township was purchased as part of the Bucks County Agricultural Preservation Program in 1993. Today the county has over 1,200 acres in conservation easements in Plumstead, with approximately half of the land co-eased with the Township.
- Plumstead Township purchased its first conservation easement in 1997. Today the Township has permanently preserved over 1,000 acres through conservation easement purchases and donations.
- In addition to land protected by conservation easements, there are over 300 acres of parkland in the township, and over 400 acres of permanent green space preserved as part of residential developments.

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### THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.

# NEW WEBSITE!

Plumstead Township is pleased to announce the release of our new Municipal website. The website was created by local-based na studios which features new photography and technologies. The new site is now even easier to navigate. Features include a quick link section for access to our most popular pages. Our agendas are now located directly on the homepage along with our upcoming events and meetings. Our latest feature is a custom AI powered chatbot which will provide more engaging interactions and better user experiences. Feel free to visit [www.plumstead.org](http://www.plumstead.org) for more information.



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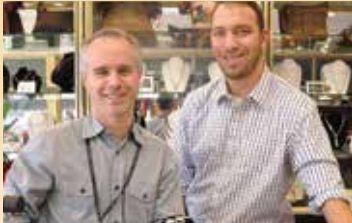
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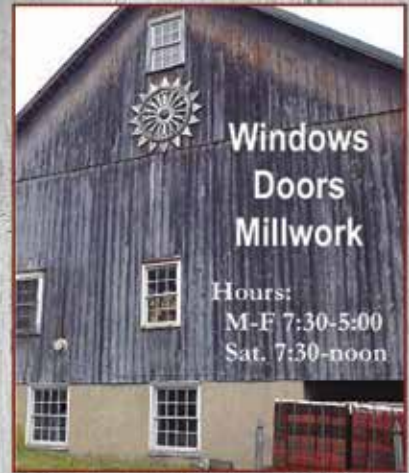
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## HISTORIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Stewardship Spotlight



Hughes, Michael, and Friend & Aub. Farm map of Plumstead Township, Bucks Co., Penn'a. [Philadelphia: Mich'l Hughes, 1859] Map. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2012585911/>.

### Stewardship is Preservation

Our state historic preservation office (a bureau within PHMC) defines preservation as "the act or process of applying measures necessary to sustain the existing form, integrity & materials of an historic property." Because historic significance is different for every property, thoughtful stewardship is the key to preservation.

**Integrity Counts:** All properties change over time. Rarely are they found without having experienced any change. When considered for the National Register of Historic Places ("NRHP"), a property's ability to convey its historic significance through physical appearance is evaluated.

The 7 aspects, location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling & association, together define integrity. Although all 7 do not need to be present for a property to retain integrity, the property must retain at least 1 to be listed on the NRHP. [2]

**Condition & Integrity** are not equivalent: Most importantly, a property can be in very poor physical condition, but retain integrity & vice versa. Condition may be linked to integrity in instances when the property has not been maintained & important physical features are lost as a result. [2] Therefore, thoughtful care & maintenance, or Stewardship is the key.

**One size does not fit All.** Rarely do conservation projects employ just one approach. Integrity can best be maintained, (and is improvable!) when property owners apply a combination, starting with the least to most invasive approaches; Preservation, Restoration & Rehabilitation [1].

**All is never Lost.** In fact, even when a resource is totally lost to incident or time, Reconstruction is a valid form of conservation, such that a property can be fully rebuilt and then added onto the NRHP. Our best example is Bucks County's own Pennsbury Manor, the home of William Penn himself! After having passed through many hands & having fallen into disrepair, in 1929 the PHMC took ownership. Using archeological, historical research and all new materials, Pennsbury Manor was Reconstructed (1938), added to the NRHP (1969) & proudly stands today!

**Tiny Spaces, Precious Places: A Springhouse.** An essential source of freshwater for settlers aiming to establish their farmsteads, natural springs were a critical feature on the landscape. Built over a watercourse and preventing food spoilage, these seemingly tiny spaces could sustain 50°F, even on the warmest summer days. Used as root cellars, pump houses and milkhouses, they were integral to 18th-19th century way of life. [3]

**A Place of Importance.** Colonial settlement circa early 18th c., evolved and was later established along Old Easton Rd. Beautifully illustrated circa 1859, the "Residence of Thomas Brown" (descendant of one of Plumstead's earliest inhabitants, English Quaker Thomas Brown), the historic farmstead is now accessible via Rt. 611. Better known today as Bucks Country Gardens, its tiny springhouse can still be spotted resting peacefully just beyond the pond. Over time and many seasons, wooden components succumbed to the elements and with walls built of fieldstones exposed and overtime, stones began toppling in turn.

**Preservation at work.** Recognizing the structure's importance to the farmstead as a whole, proprietors and current stewards Barb & Tom Hebel contacted local historic tradesmen to complete the work.

**Restoration** began when, like a puzzle, mason Dave Fulmer reset fallen stones using lime mortar. Made softer than the stone, during freeze/thaw cycles the mortar sacrificially deteriorates thereby protecting the stones from spalling and cracking. With each stone set, lost openings and side walls were solidified in preparation for the next craftsman. Needing replacement and using all materials, the roof system was **reconstructed** by carpenter Jason Fermier. Let into existing side wall pockets, pairs of timbers were made whole using scarf-joints locked with pins. More impervious than sawn, vertical grain hand-riven white oak shingles were crafted and affixed to purlins. Securing access to the loft space above the water cooled storage area below, a new board and batten door was hung via period appropriate hardware and protected with a fresh coat of paint.

**Combined approaches:** Using all new materials and workmanship in kind, the integrity of the springhouse has been restored. Proudly on view resting peacefully beyond the pond, for this historic farmstead's tiny springhouse, time stands still.

### Thank you Hebel family!

Your gift of stewardship provided this tiny space and precious place the ability to continue conveying the rich heritage of Plumstead township for all and future generations to enjoy.

[1] The National Park Service: <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1739/secretary-standards-treatment-historic-properties.htm>. [2] The Pennsylvania Museum Commission. [phmc.pa.gov/Preservation/About/Pages/General-Information.aspx](http://phmc.pa.gov/Preservation/About/Pages/General-Information.aspx). [3] Bender, Nancy "Springhouses: Important Buildings in the Past." <https://mercensburghistory.org/blog/34/>

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