Berks-Mont Photo by Harold Hoch

Earl Township supervisors Frank Morgan (left) and T. Patrick Davis begin work on the installation of a flag pole at the township building last weekend.

In Ruscombmanor Township

A cloud of uncertainty

By Diane Van Dyke
Berks-Mont Writer

The recent death of the principal of Environmental Options Group, Inc. leaves a cloud of uncertainty over the pending appeal for a proposed medical waste treatment facility in Ruscombmanor Township.

The Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of EOG., William J. Steingraber, Jr., was killed on August 8 when his sport utility vehicle struck a bridge abutment on Penn Avenue in Wyomissing Hills.

According to acting Berks County Coroner Michael F. Feeney, Steingraber's blood alcohol level was 0.232 percent after his death. The legal alcohol limit for drivers is 0.10 percent.

EOG is in the midst of appealing the Ruscombmanor Township zoning hearing board members, decision of Feb. 27 denying a special exception request for a proposed medical waste facility.

The site for the proposed facility is located on 11.5 acres at 546 Blandon Road, also known as Route 73, between Blandon and Breezy Corner.

EOG's current facilities are located at 18 Water Street in Reading.

If the special exception had been granted, EOG's facilities would have moved to the new site where it was proposing to use a chem clav system to sterilize medical waste that would be hauled to a landfill.

EOG filed an appeal on March 27 to the township zoning members, decision. EOG's legal counsel, Stephen H. Price of Mogel, Speidel, Bobb & Kershner, Reading, did not return repeated phone calls.

However, counsel for RCC, Brett Huckabee of Hoffert, Huckabee & Weiler, P.C. of Wyomissing, said, "Technically, and legally, there is no impact since the corporation filed the application for appeal."

"The appeal is at a standstill," said Huckabee. "No one has listed the matter for argument. Time may solve things."

Huckabee said he was informed that EOG is considering its options.

"Steingraber was the principal of the corporation with the decision-making rights," he said.

Counsel for Ruscombmanor Township, Jeffrey J. Howell of Reading, has also filed a notice of intervention to EOG's appeal.

If you have local news, send it to:

phillips@berksmontnews.com

Colebrookdale OKs part of police budget

Colebrookdale Township leaders recently approved Bechtelsville Borough's share of expenses for operating the Colebrookdale District Police Department.

The agreement continues the agreement where township police provide security for borough residents.

The township commissioner's agreement locked in the 2002 police budget with Bechtelsville paying $78,458.56 for police protection. That figure is 12.75 percent of the total $615,363.58 police budget for the new year.

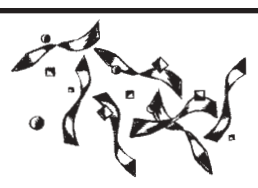
The commissioners also approved hiring Katherine Fryer as a parttime police officer. She will be paid $13 per hour.

The township also approved hiring a Douglassville firm to paint road lines. A1 Traffic Control Products was awarded the $5,324.22 contract.

Exchange Club fete

The Exchange Club of Boyertown will host the 7th Annual Heritage Day in the Park, Oct. 6 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Boyertown Area Community Park on Madison Street. The raindate is Oct. 7.

Along with Civil War reenactors, there will be demonstrations. Children will be able to make scarecrows, make butter, or paint a pumpkin.



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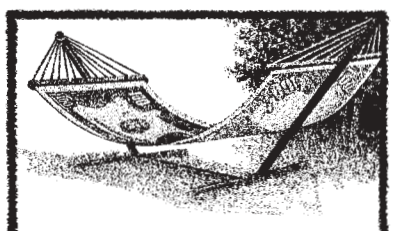

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