

## **Salford Township clarifies school tax problems with mortgage companies**

For any Souderton Area School District taxpayers who may have had a problem with discount for early payment, Salford Township wants them to be aware of problems encountered with their mortgage companies.

With the resignation of Wanda Elwell as tax collector, and the appointment of Carol Casper to that position, it appeared that problems with getting school taxes collected were over. Unfortunately, it appears that a few mortgage companies did not read the new tax collector's address on the tax bills. They therefore sent taxes paid by their homeowners to the previous address of Mrs. Elwell. It also appears that the Tylersport Post office has been receiving tax payments addressed only to "Tax Collector, Tylersport, Pa." and has also been erroneously forwarding these to Mrs. Elwell.

Mrs. Elwell has been staying with relatives out of the area, and has had her mail forwarded. She did not forward any taxes she received to the new tax collector until more than a month had passed. Salford Township has been told that the School District has declined to accept that the discounted payments have been paid within the discount period.

Because this problem was not the fault of the taxpayer, nor of the new tax collector, Mrs. Casper, Salford has requested that its Solicitor discuss the matter with the School District Solicitor in an attempt to have the early payments accepted as a matter of fairness to the taxpayers affected.

Salford Township wants to be sure that any affected taxpayers understand:

- The errors made here are the fault of the individual mortgage companies, and not errors of the new tax collector, Mrs. Casper.
- The problem was compounded by the previous tax collector's delay in forwarding the payments.
- While Salford Township has no responsibility whatever for the handling of school taxes, it wishes to use its good offices through its Solicitor to attempt to help affected taxpayers obtain fairness.
- Salford hopes that publication of these facts might induce the School District to look favorably on the taxpayers' plight.

Taxpayers affected are urged to contact their individual mortgage companies, and to also contact the School District to discuss their problem.