



2022 Winter Newsletter

National Night Out

Kennett Township Police Department

The first National Night Out was held in 1984 as a part of "America's Night Out Against Crime," an effort to promote police-community partnerships with our neighbors and to strengthen relationships between the community and law enforcement. This event started as a night to turn on the porch light and keep watch for possible criminal activity, essentially being eyes and ears for the police departments. Currently, National Night Out (NNO) has over 37 million people involved in the 50 states and 15,000 communities participating in the event.



The Kennett Township Police Department (KTPD) previously participated with the NNO event hosted by the Kennett Square Borough Police Department on Linden Street in the Borough. In recent years, we have had officers spend time in the community before the National Night Out event to engage with our residents individually and encourage others to participate with community efforts.

Due to COVID-19, public relations efforts were halted to ensure our officers' safety and the well-being of our community. With a return to a sense of normalcy in 2022, we were delighted to gear up and host our first individual KTPD National Night Out. So, on August 2nd, all KTPD members set up NNO at Anson B. Nixon Park. Our goal was to positively develop and enhance our neighbor's and law enforcement relationships, creating a true sense of community. We loved having a larger platform to engage with our community above and beyond the individual interactions we experience daily.



(From L to R) KTPD Officer Dowd, Detective Juarez, Chief Gordon, Officer Simmons, and Officer DeLeon were all smiles for KTPD's First Annual National Night Out event. Supervisors Stevens and Gamble show off some face painting. There was a great crowd and the moon bounce was a big hit!

Valuing our mission statement to serve those living, working, and traveling throughout Kennett Township, local partners joined us for a night of fun, that included a moon bounce, activities, food, ice cream from our local establishments, and face paintings. Members from the Pennsylvania State Police, Avondale Barracks, the Chester County Sheriff's Department, Longwood Fire Department, Kennett Fire Department & the Po-Mar-Lin Fire Department participated in the events, displaying police vehicles, fire trucks, and water rescue apparatus. Our officers showed the meaning of community policing, and the feedback we received ensured we are on the right path of continuing to build on our Public Relations efforts.

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610-388-0461 (f)
www.kennett.pa.us
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KENNETT TOWNSHIP POLICE

610-388-2874 (p)
610-388-8594 (f)
Always call **911** for emergencies
or to have an officer respond
ktpd@kennett.pa.us

Matt Gordon
Chief of Police
matthew.gordon@kennett.pa.us

KENNETT TOWNSHIP PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE

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Chairman's Corner

Dr. Richard L. Leff, Chair

On behalf of the Board of Supervisors, I am so glad you are reading through our Winter 2022 Newsletter. You'll notice this is a "Winter" addition rather than a "Fall." The only reason is that our in-house Newsletter designer, Gretchen Porterfield, was out on maternity leave during the fall months. While it is a little later than normal, I believe you will find the contents to be helpful, interesting, and informative. In addition to updates from the Department Heads and some Township Committees, area partners and nonprofits have contributed updates and articles as well for your reading pleasure.

The Board of Supervisors continues to be available to you either directly via email and/or or phone (see below). Due to an unfortunate mold issue in our Public Meeting Room, our twice monthly meetings have not been able to offer a hybrid option. We miss all of our regular Zoom attendees, are working to correct the problem, and look forward to welcoming everyone back in-person and virtually once resolved. The public is of course still welcomed to attend in-person and we encourage you to do so. Always check the website calendar to verify the location of the meeting ahead of time as we are using a couple different locations.

We hope everyone has a healthy, enjoyable holiday season.

Dr. Richard Leff
Chair

Connect with Kennett Township!

www.kennett.pa.us

kennett.twp@kennett.pa.us

610-388-1300

@kennettwp

@kennetttownship

Have an idea? Question? Concern?
We **WANT** to hear from you! Not sure who to contact?
We've recently made changes to our voicemail prompts so you can now leave a message in a general mailbox.

Want to take your thought straight to the top?
Email your Supervisors:

richard.leff@kennett.pa.us

scudder.stevens@kennett.pa.us

geoffrey.gamble@kennett.pa.us

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A Look Ahead: 2023

Eden Ratliff, Manager



2022 was a significant year for the Township and 2023 will be just as exciting. The 2023 budget development process has expertly positioned the Township to address expected and unexpected capital investments while maintaining our financial health.

The Kennett Greenway on Chandler Mill Road will move into the execution and construction phase in 2023. The project is expected to take two construction seasons after being put out to bid at the start of 2023. We are excited to see the vision of the Greenway come alive after many years of dreaming, planning, and designing.

Spar Hill Farm was preserved in perpetuity in 2018 having been the most productive farm in Kennett Township history. It is quintessential Chester County with its rolling hills, beautiful woods, and picturesque farm structures. In accordance with a recommendation from the Kennett Township Historical Commission, some of the non-historic buildings are going to be demolished and some of the historic ones will be preserved. This will take place in 2023 and lead to the grand opening of the farm for all to enjoy. This intentional place-making project showcases our Township's history while providing a space for our community to gather and passively recreate. We cannot wait to enjoy what this property will become.

One project that we are unexpectedly addressing is a mold outbreak in our Public Meeting Room. Due to insufficient (or nonexistent) water proofing of our 20-year-old Township building, water was able to leak in to create our current mold situation. The room has been gutted and a water proofing system was installed. The next steps that will take us into 2023 are to design a meeting room that meets the needs of a Township that has grown and changed while meeting the needs of the current Board of Supervisors.

As this year ends, I cannot help but fondly appreciate the work that was accomplished in 2022. Looking back is healthy, appropriate, and equally as important as looking forward. 2023 will be a year of execution of thoughtfully planned projects, many with input from you – our community. The relaxation that comes with the end of the year is marrying perfectly with the excitement of the year to come.

Cheers to a Happy Holiday and a Happy New Years.

Eden

National Night Out Continued from page 1

The KTPD has always thought that community-based policing is the most productive model for dealing with crime-based problems and social issues. We have a very diverse community and we know that one size does not fit all. Having the input of our residents truly makes us a better police department.

With fantastic support from the Township and our Board of Supervisors, our Public Relations Officer, Elysia Simmons, has been working to secure additional public relations events in 2023. We are excited about our First Annual Community Day in May. We understand how important it is to get into our community and build trust and legitimacy with our residents. We want you all to know that we are here and care immensely about you and our community.

Planning for our 2023 NNO is also underway. The police department would like to enhance our NNO with more vendor participation, additional activities, and more food trucks! Contact Elysia (elysia.simmons@kennett.pa.us) if you or your organization would like to participate!

As we have move into our holiday season, the KTPD continues to give back to the community. We have partnered with the Unionville Presbyterian Church & The Kennett Square Rotary Club in a joint effort that marks the 10th anniversary of the coat Drive outreach program. This program donates coats collected to the Maternal Child Health Consortium (MCHS), a non-profit organization giving to children and adults, committed to assuring children in the Chester County region start healthy, stay healthy, and succeed in school. In addition to the MCHS, other local non-profit organizations in need have also been helped by this great cause.

From our police family to yours, we hope everyone has a safe, happy, and healthy holiday season.



(From L to R) Members of several area first responders came together to serve the Kennett community for the Kennett Township Police Department's 1st Annual National Night Out. KTPD Officer Dowd and Detective Juarez handed out goodie bags. KTPD and K-9 Officer and Bolt demonstrate Zeus's K-9 skills. KTPD Officer DeLeon enjoyed showing his police car to members of the community of all ages.

Chandler Mill Trail: Past, Present and Future & The Vision

Kennett Township Board of Supervisors

The Past

Geoffrey Gamble, Supervisor

The Chandler Mill Trail should not only be recognized for its flora and fauna but also for its history.

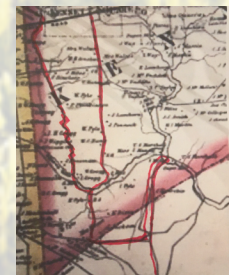
For close to a millennium the Lenni Lenape Turtle Clan fished, farmed, and shot deer, eastern elk, black bears, and beavers along the West Branch of the Red Clay Creek. It was a virtual Noah's Ark of animal species and a hunter's paradise. Flocks of edible pigeons flew by in such density that the sky was darkened for several hours at a time. The Lenape hunting activities are evidenced by arrow heads, fish net sinkers, stone mallets for braining animals, and hatchets for skinning them, together with other implements found along the Creek even to this day. With the death of Indian Hannah, more than two hundred years ago, the clan and tribe sadly ceased to exist in Kennett.



British and German regiments arrived in the area in the early fall of 1777. Chandler Mill Road, which the new Trail will parallel, provided a link to Kennett Square on the way to the Battle of the Brandywine - the largest battle of the Revolutionary War. The British Army was encamped near present day Hockessin, Delaware.

By the late evening of September 9th, General Washington received word that the "enemy this day has marched two columns on two different roads, but that their general direction continues north towards Kennett Square". By the morning of the 10th, Washington received word that one enemy column had arrived at Kennett Square the night before, but that the other had halted for the night at near Hockessin Meeting House, "about five miles from Kennett Square".

It is this 'second enemy column' which is of interest to us. Their march to Kennett Square came right up Chandler Mill Road. Their original plan was to march along what is now Meeting House Road by the Hockessin Meeting, connect with what is now Marshall Vale Road in our Township and then go up Creek Road. Little more than a sloping muddy path, Creek Road proved to be unsuitable for their artillery trains. So back down to Delaware they went and proceeded along what is now Benge Road to Ewart Road and then to the right up the hill on Chandler Mill.



In those days, what is now the triangle between Chandler Mill, Kaolin, and Bucktoe did not exist; it was a crossroads

consisting of what is now Chandler Mill Road, crossing Marshall Bridge Road and a lane going up the hill to the west towards Hartefeld. The overlapping Kaolin Road we know today, swooping off towards New Garden, was only laid out in the 1880s. The Bucktoe name did not come about until the 1830s when the African American Timbucktoo Chapel was erected. The cemetery remains today in our Township on Bucktoe Road.



Wikipedia.org

From the time the British Army was in the area, the crossroads were guarded by the Queen's American Rangers, a British regiment made up of American Loyalists who set up their headquarters in a log cabin, still existing today, on a hill overlooking the intersection. The Rangers wore green uniforms much like the newly created US Marines. There was no Becker's Bridge in those days, and anyone wishing to cross the Red Clay there would have had to step along the stone mill dam about an eighth of a mile east of the crossroads in order to proceed up what is now Kaolin Road to Kennett Square. The remains of this dam can still be seen. It is probable that many foot soldiers did this, but the artillery would have had to use Chandler Mill Road,



Photo by J. Watkins

which was flat and went over the Red Clay by means of a sturdy wooden bridge by the actual Chandler's Mill. This bridge was replaced in 1910 by the present structure which was restored in 2021.

Back to our Trail, the moccasins of the Lenape which hunted by the creek have long since vanished with the mist. The boots of the British troops which marched along it moved on to their destiny; about 100 were killed during the Battle of the Brandywine. As for our time, soon, anyone who will be hiking upon the new Chandler Mill Trail will be walking in the footsteps of history.

The Present & Future

Richard Leff, Supervisor

One of the reasons I wanted to be a Supervisor was to preserve open space land and historic places in our Township. I consider the historic Chandler Mill Bridge to be one of our best early successes. Kennett Township can be proud of our accomplishments in preserving nearly a quarter of our land as open space. Yet, for too long, we have built islands on land linked only by roads, built mainly for cars. Besides having a safe place to run, walk, and bicycle, the Chandler Mill Trail represents the start of a comprehensive trail network that reaches through-

of Open Space That Started it All

out Kennett Township and links us to our neighbors, without forcing us to drive. It will be a place for us to walk, run and bicycle amidst nature, and connect to 47-acre the Chandler Mill Nature Preserve. It will be a place for us to remember those who were here before us, and give us a sense of place, anchored by the historic, 100-year-old Chandler Mill Bridge.



have been well over 20 public meetings and open houses, numerous bilingual surveys, multiple traffic studies, and a pilot study of the proposed changes to Chandler Mill Road. Those surveys and studies have heavily informed and influenced the design approach and cost of the project.

On October 8, 2022 the most recent event was held at the Chandler Mill Preserve in partnership with the Brandywine Red Clay Alliance and Kennett Trails Alliance, and it featured drawings and plans which are available online at www.kennettgreenway.com/updates/chandler-mill-trail.

Residents were able to meet with various consultants about design and engineering, as well as the Board of Supervisors.



The Township has relied on environmental and engineering best practices, as well as resident feedback to develop every segment. We are in the final stages of engineering and permitting has been submitted to various regulators. Several right of ways are in the process of being finalized and the Township has applied for additional grant funding to reduce the cost to residents. Depending on permitting, construction is slated to start in the spring of 2023 and will last through at least the spring of 2024.

This is more than a little path along a creek. It is a completely redesigned road that includes bike facilities, traffic calming, and stormwater management. Additionally, we can look forward to critical roadside stabilization that will prevent the

continued washout of the roadside from the West Branch of the Red Clay Creek – a costly issue that would have eventually needed to be addressed. The existing road and Creekside environment will be restored by removing dead/dying trees and invasives, and features a robust replanting plan that includes a healthy mix of native plants and vegetation.

The Chandler Mill Trail is the proverbial first step in a 1000-mile journey to build the Kennett Greenway. As you learn more about the Chandler Mill Trail, I hope that you'll come to see it as valuable investment for Kennett Township's future and a reminder of our proud past.

The Vision of Open Space

Scudder Stevens, Supervisor

When I first ran for office in the Fall of 2011, a significant issue was what to do about the Chandler Mill Bridge. It was owned by the County and historic in character. There were only a very few of these bridges remaining in existence in the County. It had deteriorated and was becoming a dangerous resource. The County wanted to tear it down and replace it with a modern, two lane bridge. It was projected that the result would be a significant increase of traffic on the bucolic rural road known as Chandler Mill Road.



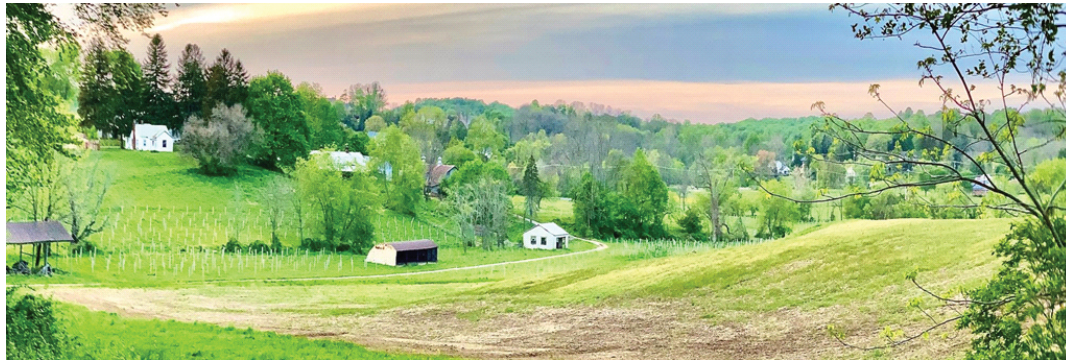
I was elected as a Supervisor, effective January 1, 2012, with the mandate to address this bridge concern. I thereafter encouraged a meeting with the County Commissioners concerning the Chandler Mill Bridge. We also held a region-wide meeting at the Red Clay Room in the Borough to discuss what options were available concerning the Chandler Mill Bridge. There was a strong desire for the Township to take possession of the bridge and to restore it, with emergency access use, only, permitted. This ultimately occurred and the bridge has subsequently been restored. As a result, traffic on Chandler Mill Road is now only a small amount as compared to what it was before the bridge take-over.

Because Chandler Mill Road tracks the West Branch of the Red Clay Creek, Township residents expressed a desire to preserve that corridor as open space, taking advantage of the reduced vehicular traffic. Note that only a short period before, the residents, by a strong majority, passed a referendum clearly

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establishing that open space preservation in Kennett Township was a priority, and a tax to support that goal was authorized. Thus, with the evolving resolution of the Chandler Mill Bridge restoration problem, Kennett Township included Chandler Mill Road in the on-going plans for open space in the Township. The results of this effort to merge Chandler Mill Road into the trails and open space plans and goals of the Township are now, finally, coming to fruition.

But what, you might ask, are the plans of the Township for open space beyond Chandler Mill Road? For years, before the Chandler Mill Road trail, the community has looked to the use of open space preserved land to foster a trail system that encircled the Borough. One of the goals for purchasing open space land was how the contemplated plot would fit into this ring around the Borough. With the addition of Spar Hill (pictured above), Lord Howe, and the Miller Farm, among other plots, the pearls of this necklace around the Borough have slowly been accumulating.



Some suggest that this evolving multi-modal trail way will make it possible to not only walk, but also use non-motorized wheeled transportation (bike, wheel-chair, stroller, etc.) from any point in the Township to any other area of the Township, as well as to the commercial and cultural center of the region; this certainly is one of the goals of this trail system. If all of this trail system were constructed and managed like the Chandler Mill Road section, it would certainly be possible. But the greater portion of this necklace contains terrain and contours that will not support significant wheeled traffic any time soon.

Another of the goals of preserving open space land in Kennett Township is to preserve the view shed obtained from those parcels – to preserve the unique character offered by each parcel. The pearls on this necklace not only include the multi-modal sections like Chandler Mill Road; they also include parcels of rare beauty and historic value. Spar Hill is of historic value because of its agricultural importance, as well as that it was an open pit feldspar mine of economic significance in international trade. In State Line Woods there are trail sections that mimic terrain difficulties found along the Appalachian Trail. The trail grades found at Miller Farm offer challenging hiking and spectacular views across the rural vista of Kennett Township.

The parcels comprising the preserved lands and trails in the Township sweep from the Delaware State border to Kennett Borough. They include both extremes and the gentle spaces in between – all the while honoring the vision of the community for open space throughout the Township. The mature trees, meadows and fields are accessible there to be honored. The streams flowing through tie us to the Delaware River Basin and the Atlantic Ocean. The deer, the fox and the coyote are there to meet in their home space. The birds, even the bald eagle, are in profusion. All there for each of us to honor, enjoy and share.

This is the vision of open space in Kennett Square from the beginning. It remains that vision and goal. It continues to grow and evolve as Kennett Township continues to honor that mission.



Renderings of the future Chandler Mill Trail. Construction is expected to start in the Spring of 2023.

Three-Year Reflection

It is hard to believe that it has been three years since Eden Ratliff and I joined Kennett Township. The time has passed quickly and it is easy to forget how much we have accomplished. In addition to establishing financial order and controls, one of our most critical tasks was putting together a strong team that could help us accomplish that primary goal. I want to thank my team – Dina, Denise, Jasmin, and Bill – for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to bringing transparency and controls to Kennett Township.

2022 Forecasted Financial Performance

For 2022, we are expecting a General Fund Operating Gain excluding recovery of \$1.2M and a loss of \$38K after capital expenses. The Operating Gain is \$307K below budget while the loss after capital expenses is \$94K below budget.

Revenue: We expect revenue before recovery to be near budget at -\$17K or just .2% below budget. Tax revenue is expected to be about \$89K or 1% below budget due to underperforming Earned Income Tax (EIT) and Real Estate Transfer Tax. EIT from residents is performing above budget but EIT from those that work here and live in a district without EIT is falling below expectations. Real estate sales have slowed down later in the year, so we are forecasting lower receipts in the last two months. Non-tax revenue is partially offsetting due primarily to favorable one-time grant revenue and reimbursements. However, Building & Zoning revenue is lower than anticipated given that some commercial projects moved slower than expected.

Expenses: We expect 2022 operating expenses to be \$290K or 4.6% over budget. Administration legal expenses are exceeding budget due to the cost of the ethics review (\$205K) and other legal items (\$57K). Police salaries are expected to exceed budget by \$192K primarily driven by overtime. This is largely due to filling all open shifts to ensure there are always two patrol officers on duty. To reduce overtime, we are beginning to leave weekday day shifts open depending on back-up from the Detective, School Resource Officer and Chief. In addition, reimbursable overtime is running \$54K above budget but we are reimbursed for this expense. The PA Auditor General’s office is just completing our 2018-2021 Pension Audit, which is conducted every four years. We expect an estimated \$111K in one-time expenses related to findings and issues stemming from the prior administration. These overages are partially offset due to open staff positions we had throughout the year and some projects that were not completed this year.

Income Statement as of November 23, 2022			
General Fund Only	2022 Budget	2022 Forecast	2023 Budget
Revenue			
Taxes	\$ 6,042,400	\$ 5,953,568	\$ 6,348,628
Fees, Fines, Grants, Interest	\$ 1,742,708	\$ 1,814,834	\$ 3,132,924
Revenue Total	\$ 7,785,108	\$ 7,768,402	\$ 9,481,552
Expense			
Salaries & Benefits	\$ 3,688,295	\$ 3,965,083	\$ 4,081,437
Maintenance & Operations	\$ 847,175	\$ 754,065	\$ 833,586
Contracted/ Professional Services	\$ 631,900	\$ 717,099	\$ 635,384
Community & Economic Development	\$ 247,616	\$ 250,801	\$ 174,630
Fire & Ambulance	\$ 862,836	\$ 881,301	\$ 1,106,450
Expense Total	\$ 6,277,822	\$ 6,568,349	\$ 6,831,487
Transfers to Capital Fund	\$ (1,450,470)	\$ (1,237,534)	\$ (3,146,242)
Operating Gain/(Loss)	\$ 1,507,286	\$ 1,200,053	\$ 2,650,065
Gain/(Loss) With Capital	\$ 56,816	\$ (37,482)	\$ (496,177)
2022 results above do not include \$735K of revenue from recovery nor the \$131K cost of recovery efforts. Neither of these items are budgeted.			

2023 Budget

The 2023 budget has been approved for advertising and is expected to be adopted before the end of 2022. It can be found on our website: www.kennett.pa.us/159/Finance-HR.

In summary, the 2023 Budget is extremely tight given large increases in expenses for Police, Fire & EMS along with other inflationary pressures and large capital projects. Reductions have already been made in most discretionary places and we have declined many requests from Department Heads. The budget includes a half of a mill Real Estate Tax increase (avg \$123 per parcel) which will produce about \$405K in revenue. Funding of our capital needs and projects is expected to require the use of \$496K of reserves in 2023. This can work for 2023, however further prioritization or additional grants or other funding sources will be needed to reduce the draw on reserves in the future.

Zoning Ordinance Update

Diane Hicks, Director of Planning & Zoning

As many are likely aware, the Township has been working on the update of our zoning ordinance. A zoning ordinance consists of two parts: a map (or series of maps) and text. The zoning map shows how the community is divided into different use districts or zones. Zoning districts common to most ordinances include residential, commercial, industrial, and agricultural. The zoning map must show precise boundaries for each district. Consequently, most zoning maps rely on street or property lines as district boundaries.

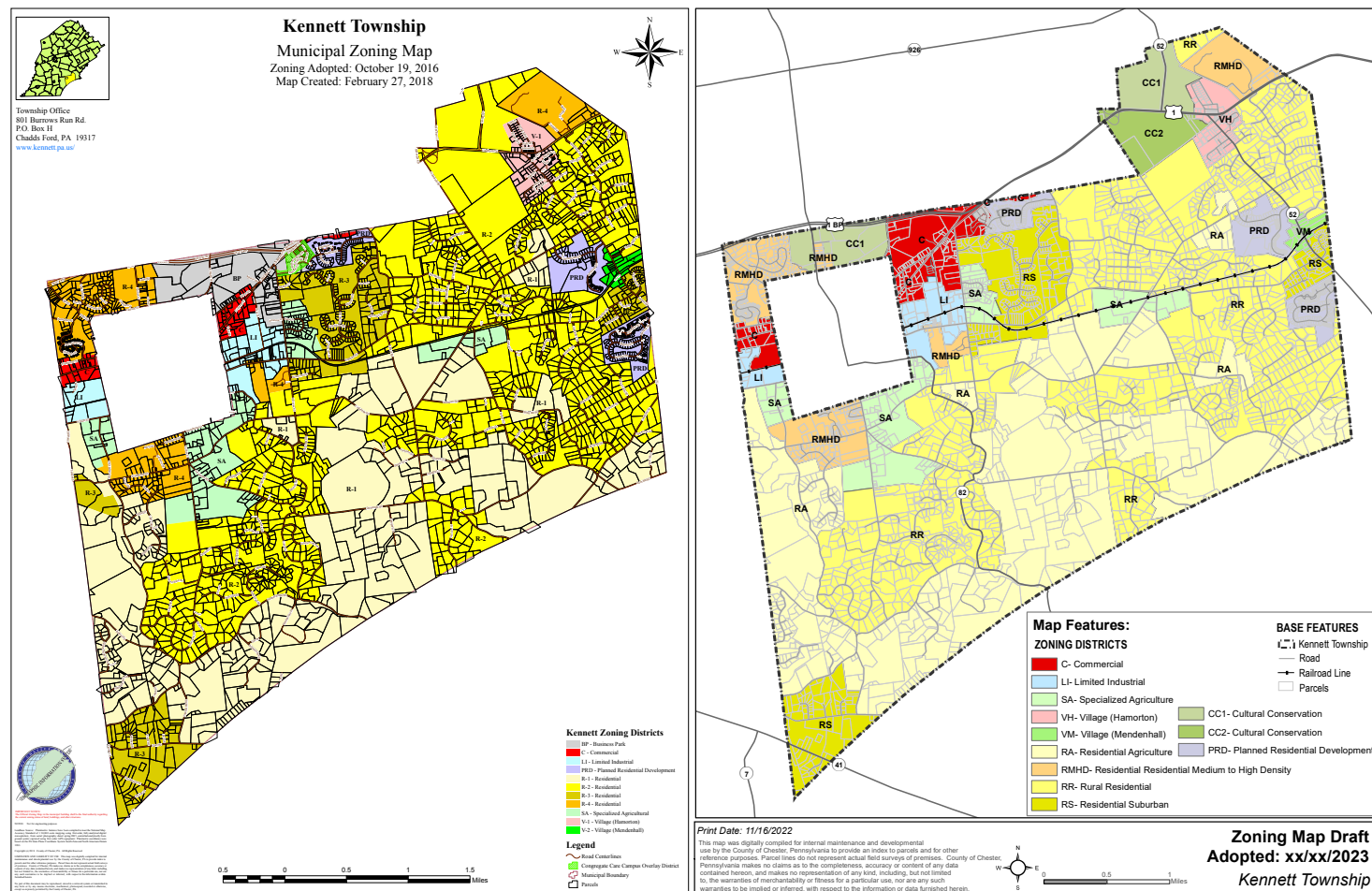
The zoning text serves two important functions. First, it explains the zoning rules that apply in each zoning district. These rules typically establish a list of land uses permitted in each district plus a series of specific standards governing lot size, building height, and required yard and setback provisions. Second, the text sets forth a series of procedures for administering and applying the zoning ordinance.

The update has now reached its conclusion and several public meetings will be held to inform the public and address questions in the upcoming months. For purposes of this article we are concentrating on the map changes.

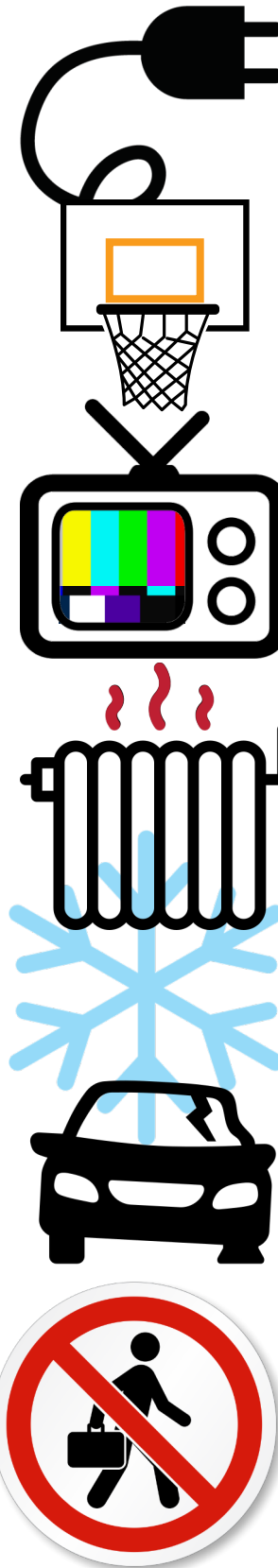
The existing map listed our zoning districts as R-1 Residential, R-2 Residential, R-3 Residential, R-4 Residential, Commercial, Business Park, Limited Industrial, Special Agricultural, V-1 Hamorton Village, V-2 Mendenhall Village, and Planned Residential District. While some residents knew their district, they had no idea the particular qualities of that zone. We have renamed the zoning districts to address this issue and keep the districts in line with our comprehensive plan.

The new districts are proposed as RA – Residential Agriculture which replaces R-1, RR – Residential Rural replacing R-2, RS – Residential Suburban replacing R-3, RMHD – Residential Medium High Density replacing R-4. VH – Hamorton Village, VM – Mendenhall Village, the LI, SA and PRD remain as is. The BP district is being deleted and will be incorporated into the new Commercial District, as the uses in both zones are extremely similar. Finally, we have added two new districts whose focus is on cultural institutional uses CC-1 Cultural Conservation 1 and CC-2 Cultural Conservation 2.

In finalizing the zoning map update we have cleaned up some areas whose zoning did not make sense either because of its use, or size. Property owners who will be affected by these changes will be notified prior to adoption to provide their input. Below are the current (left) and proposed (right) zoning map.



PERMITTING FYI'S



ELECTRICAL PERMITS require all Electrical Inspections and Plan Reviews to be conducted by a Third-Party Electrical Inspection Agency. Electrical Permit Guidelines can be found on the “Forms” page of our website. Kennett Township does not conduct electrical inspections. Knowing this information ahead of time will help expedite your building permit. 75% of our permit applications are missing the Electrical plan review stamp of a 3rd party inspection agency. Electrical permits are required for updating or adding electric, installing a charging station for your electric vehicle, or as part of a renovation or Building Permit.

DID YOU KNOW? Basketball hoops are not permitted to be located within the right-of-way and must be removed from any Kennett Township roadway.

HOW DO I RECYCLE MY OLD TV? Pennsylvania state law requires that televisions, computers, and monitors be recycled and prohibits disposal as trash. Some of the curbside trash haulers will pick up TVs for a fee. Check with your trash hauler to see if they are conducting a special electronics collection. You can also visit Southern Chester County Refuse Authority’s website (www.seccra.org/what-do-i-do-with) or call them at 610-869-2452 for more information.

BABY, IT’S COLD OUTSIDE... Upgrading or getting a new heater this season? These projects require a Mechanical Permit. Whether it is changing from oil to gas, or getting a new heater or hot water heater, a the mechanical permit is required. Please check with your installer to make sure they have pulled a the correct permit. All forms and directions are on our website (www.kennett.pa.us/279/Forms-Permits).

DON’T COME UP SHORT IN THE COLD Have you updated or created a winter safety kit for your car and home? If not, now is a good time to get that chore off your list before the snow starts blowing. Have these items on hand: • Rock salt or other environmentally safe products to melt ice on walkways. The Environmental Protection Agency offers a list of recommended products. • Sand to improve traction. • Snow shovels and other snow removal equipment. • Sufficient heating fuel and/or a good supply of dry, seasoned wood for your fireplace or wood-burning stove. • Adequate clothing and blankets. • Flashlights and batteries. • Several days of necessary medications. Learn more at penndot.pa.gov.

DO NOT SOLICIT Don’t want solicitors knocking at your door? Sign up for our Do Not Solicit list from our website to have your name added! Visit bit.ly/dnsolicit. You only need to sign up once. By law, Kennett Township must allow solicitation in the Township Monday-Saturday 9:00 a.m. until 30 minutes after sunset. Solicitors must be registered with the Township and undergo a background check which entitles them to a 30-day permit. It is important to note that non-profit groups, religious organizations, political affiliates, and other entities specified by law are exempt from the solicitation rules. If you have any problems with solicitors, please contact the Police Department at 610-268-3171.

Public Works

Theodore D. Otteni, PE, Director of Public Works

New Director of Public Works



This past October, I was honored to join Kennett Township as the new Director of Public Works. With nearly 30 years of experience in engineering, construction and public works, I will be heading up the Township's Public Works efforts including snow removal, tree trimming, drainage repairs, and road maintenance. Other duties include maintaining sewer systems within the Township, as well as investigating solutions to drainage problems. My engineering experience will also be instrumental in advancing capital projects in the Township such as Spar Hill, The Greenway Trail at Chandler Mill, as well as the paving program.

Originally from the Southtowns of Buffalo, New York, I went to school for Forest Engineering at SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry in Syracuse, NY. My family and I moved to this area 16 years ago. While originally a highway and bridge engineer, my recent experience has been in delivery of construction projects as well as public works operations here in Chester County.

I would like to thank to PJ Groff, who filled in as Interim Director of Public Works since January of this year following the retirement of Roger Lysle – who had an incredible 40 years of dedicated service here in Kennett. I look forward to meeting and getting to know you, the residents of Kennett Township, as my time here unfolds.

Spar Hill Update

At the time of writing this article, bids are being solicited from contractors for the demolition of twelve structures on the Spar Hill Farm. The structures to be demolished were reviewed by the Township's consultants as well as the Historical Commission to evaluate structural integrity as well as historical significance. The original farmhouse (left) as well as the Pony Barn (right) will remain for visitors to experience the farmstead. The structures to be demolished we determined to be structurally compromised and/or of nominal significance to the historic farmstead. Demolition of the structures is expected to start in mid-January and last approximately two months. The property will be off limits to residents and visitors during this time.



Township Building Public Meeting Room Update



been installed to reduce moisture in the air. The Township staff is now working on soliciting quotes to rehabilitate the basement level. It is anticipated that the space will be usable by March 2023.

In the fall of 2022 it was determined that the basement level of the Township Building, where the Public Meeting Room is located, had moisture and mold issues. Board of Supervisors meetings have been held at various locations since. Much of the drywall and flooring has been removed. An underdrain (drain under the concrete floor) with two sump pumps have been installed to remove water from under the building. Additionally, a commercial grade dehumidifier has

Ed Ranck

In September 2022, the Public Works Department welcomed Ed Ranck. Ed has been an operator of large vehicles (commercial trucking) for over 17 years, frequently performing his tasks in adverse weather conditions. He has also been a volunteer firefighter since he was 16 years old and has numerous certifications including Driver/Operator, Vehicle Rescue Training, Hazmat, Fire I, Fire II, and Emergency Vehicle Operator Training. Ed is a team player and is excited to start his career here in Kennett Township. His experience will be put to the test for plowing operations, tree trimming, sewer repairs and storm duty. In his spare time, he enjoys hot air balloon festivals and even serves as a Crew Chief for Carter Country Flight – a local hot air balloon company.



Christmas Tree Drop-Off

When the Christmas season is over, you can recycle your (real) Christmas tree to the Township's Yard Waste Lot located at 557 Bayard Road, Kennett Square (location of Public Works garage). The trees will be ground up and used for mulch. Please make sure all lights and ornaments are removed. We cannot accept bows or wreaths that have wire.

Township Yard Waste Lot Update

The Yard Waste Lot, located at the Public Works Garage on Bayard Road, is provided as a benefit to Township residents, a benefit not available in most other Townships. We would like to remind everyone of the rules as well as ask for compliance with these rules. Otherwise, the area may need to be closed off.

- Only Township residents may utilize the drop off area for yard waste.
- Yard waste includes small trees, branches, leaves, and grass clippings.
- If you are having a contractor perform the work, you should accompany the contractor to the Yard Waste Lot.
- NOT PERMITTED:
Construction debris | Fence Components | Bagged Waste | Concrete/Stones/Asphalt/Bricks | Logs over 12" in Diameter



We have had multiple people drop off unaccepted items like these pictured here. If non-conformance continues, we will be forced to limit the drop off to a few hours a week while a Township employee can inspect the loads or discontinue the service altogether. Please help us continue to offer this free service!



Of particular concern are items containing metal such as nails, screws, hinges, brackets, etc. Metal is not compatible with the grinding equipment nor the end use of the mulch.

As the yard waste fills up the area, the Township hires a contractor to come in and convert the yard waste to mulch. Historically, this was free to the Township in exchange for the mulch. Recently, the contractor has started charging the Township a fee due to the non-desirable and unsafe material present in the pile that needs to be pulled out by hand.

Snow Plowing

With the snow season upon us, here are a few reminders from Public Works:

- Make sure cars are parked in driveways and not in the street.
- Do not pass snowplows.
- Pile snow from your driveway to the right (if looking out from your driveway). This minimizes the snow that snowplow pushes into your driveway as we pass.
- Do not pile/plow snow onto public roads.
- Check that your mailbox post is sturdy and that your mailbox is securely attached as snow being pushed back by a plow can damage old and weak mailboxes.
- Property owners are required to clear a sidewalk along your respective property frontage within 24 hours of a snow or ice event.



Our dedicated Public Works team will be out clearing snow until its gone. We have over 56 miles of roads to clear within the Township. Please allow a little extra time and patience when traveling on snow covered roads.



Saying Goodbye to 2022 with Thanks

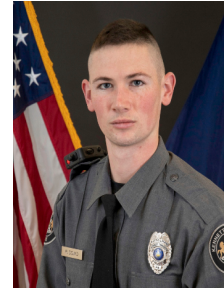
Matthew J. Gordon, Chief of Police

On behalf of the members of the Kennett Township Police Department (KTPD), I would like to thank the Manager, the Board of Supervisors, our Public Works Department, the local Fire and EMS services, our neighboring law enforcement partners, Chaplain Korengel, the Township administrative staff, and the residents of Kennett Township for your continued support in this very trying year of 2022. Hardships have been felt by everyone, whether it be in the grocery store or at the fuel pumps, but our community has held its commitment to work together to care for each other with compassion.

The KTPD saw the departure of Administrative Assistant Elizabeth (Liz) Hutchins, who decided to devote her time to being a full-time mom to her twin boys versus a department of grown-ups. Liz, your dedication, and assistance will be missed, and we all wish you the best. With Liz's departure, that opened a much-needed position to be filled.

We were fortunate to find a qualified candidate from a neighboring law enforcement agency in Heather Campbell. Heather brought with her 20 years of experience in the law enforcement world and a wide range of knowledge for how a department should function. Welcome to the Kennett Township family.

The department also saw the return of Officer Robert Dowd (pictured right), who had been serving overseas in Egypt for a year with his National Guard unit. His return brought our number of sworn officers to eleven. We thank him for his service to both his country and community.



There were two promotions in the Kennett Township Police Department in 2022. Amanda Wenrich has been with us since August of 2015 and quickly worked her way to Detective in October of 2016. In April, she promoted to Corporal. Officer Miguel Juarez, who has been with the KTPD since April of 2017, was promoted to Detective. It was an honor to recognize and celebrate them both at the promotion ceremony held on July 20th at the Board of Supervisors meeting (pictured left). Congratulations Corporal and Detective.



(From L to R) The honorable Judge Matthew Seavey, Detective Juarez, Supervisor Leff, Supervisor Stevens, Chief Gordon, Supervisor Gamble, Corporal Weinrich, Chaplain Korengel

To the Manager and Board of Supervisors:

I personally want to thank you for your collective support of our Police Department day in and day out. You have done it behind the scenes and aloud which I am very thankful for, especially in the current anti-police culture nationally. Locally we feel the appreciation of our residents and our employers so on behalf of all our KTPD family, thank you!

To Public Works:

To PJ Groff and your entire crew, thank you all for the amazing job you all do every day. PJ did a phenomenal job serving as the Interim Director of Public Works after Roger's retirement in January. The Public Works Department were always ready and willing to help us, even when there was no advanced notice. This last year has been especially busy with weather related issues, and we continue to see how much work you do with limited resources. We appreciate your continued support and want to recognize the amazing job you do every day, sometimes in the worst of conditions.

To our First Responder Partners:

We want to thank our surrounding law enforcement partners who assist us every day. We all know that it takes a team to get things done in emergencies and your assistance does not go unnoticed. Thank you to our Fire Department and ERT partners for every call you have assisted us on, every ambulance transport you have made, every fire you have put out, and every life you have helped us save. We might respond to calls in different types of vehicles, but the end goal is always the same: save a life and go home at night. Thank you for your professionalism and dedication.

To Chaplain Korengel:

We would be amiss to not thank you for your tireless contributions to KTPD and the community. You are always trying to help someone and for that we will be forever grateful. Your church bakers are also in our thanks, as much as their goodies are in our stomachs. Thank you for all you do and do not forget we are here for help when you need it.

To the Kennett Township Admin Staff:

To our partners on the first floor, thanks for your assistance, professionalism, and patience in helping us do our jobs better. I am grateful for your help and friendship, day in and day out. The entire staff really make our lives easier so thanks again. Congrats to Gretchen on the birth of your daughter (pictured right) and thanks to Kassie who stepped in while Gretchen was gone. She has done an excellent job during Gretchen's leave.



(From L to R) East Marlboro PD Sergeant Urbany, KTPD Officer Vanicolo, Southern Chester County Regional PD Officer Lantz, KTPD Officer Simmons



(From L to R) KTPD Chief Gordon, KTPD Officer Melendez, KTPD Detective Juarez, PA State Trooper Bernard

To Our Residents:

We were thankful for the opportunities this past year to build stronger relationships with you. In addition to our National Night Out event in August, we also hosted Coffee With a Cop in October for both our English and Spanish speaking residents. The mission of Coffee With a Cop is to break down barriers between police officers and citizens by removing agendas and allowing opportunities to ask questions, voice concerns, and to get to know the officers in your neighborhood. Be sure to look for more events like these in 2023.

We greatly appreciate your continued support. You continue to be our eyes and ears and remember we are here for you 24-7, 365 days a year. See something, say something. We do not mind and you are not bothering us. Call when you feel something is wrong because most often your intuition is right!

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Christmas and holiday season. Instead of thinking this time of year is about presents, think about it as presence. Spend time with your loved ones and just be present as time is something you cannot put a price on. Stay Safe!

I pray that 2023 brings a better year for us all.

Sincerely,
Chief Matthew J Gordon

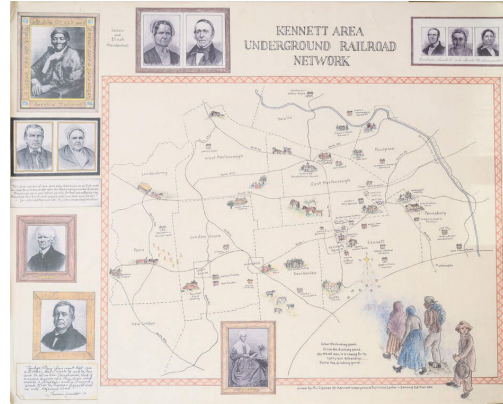
Holiday Safety Tips from the KTPD

Criminals love this time of year because they get to be a Grinch. Here are some suggestions to avoid becoming a victim during this (or any) time of year.

<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">IF YOU WILL BE AWAY FROM YOUR RESIDENCE FOR AN EXTENDED AMOUNT OF TIME</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Put lights on automatic timers in varying locations at varying times ▶ Ask someone to keep an eye on your home ▶ Put a hold on mail delivery ▶ Notify your local police department of your absence and request a property check 	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">IF YOU ARE OUT SHOPPING</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Stay alert to your surroundings and what's going on around you ▶ Don't let people see your card or pin information ▶ Park in a well-lit area and be sure to secure your vehicle by closing windows, locking doors, and setting the alarm ▶ Do not leave personal property or gifts in plain sight
<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">IF A STRANGER COMES TO YOUR DOOR</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Lock your doors even when you are home to avoid a home invasion ▶ Use your doorbell app if you have them to avoid physical contact ▶ Trust your intuition – if something feels wrong, call 911 ▶ BEWARE of Porch Pirates – have deliveries scheduled for when you are home or delivered to work to avoid your items being stolen 	<h3 style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">FRAUD ALERTS</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Do not give out any personal information over the phone, especially your Social Security Number or bank account information ▶ Do not buy gift cards and provide the number to anyone over the phone ▶ Do not believe that the caller is a family member calling for bail money or a tow bill to be paid immediately ▶ If you receive a check for more than the actual agreed amount, do not deposit or cash the check, it's most likely fraudulent

Kennett Township is Now a Proud Stop on Pennsylvania's New Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway

Karen Marshall, Chair, Kennett Township Historical Commission



Hidden away on the beautiful, serene back roads of Chester County there's a dramatic and important story that is not immediately apparent in the bucolic landscape. The story is one of manifest courage as hundreds if not thousands of lives were risked, and saved, bringing those enslaved to freedom in Pennsylvania as part of the secret and illegal Underground Railroad. There are many locations throughout our region that are relevant to this story, but they are not being told as part of an important designated system of scenic state and national byways.

That will all change as a result of the exciting news from the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission. Kennett Township's John Haedrich recently announced that on November 9, 2022 the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation acted to designate Pennsylvania's 23rd byway, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway.

The Underground Railroad consisted of an active network of abolitionists who organized and managed a series of buildings, codes, disguises, routes, transportation and more. At "stations" freedom seekers were hidden, fed, clothed and otherwise taken care of before being sent on by "conductors" to the next "station" until they finally reached safety. There was constant danger from slave hunters looking for bounty, but for the most part, reaching the free state of Pennsylvania represented the start of a new life for escaped slaves. One of the most prolific and daring of the known conductors was Harriet Tubman, born a slave in Dorchester County, Maryland in 1822.



Until recently, the Maryland and Delaware Harriet Tubman Scenic Byways did not connect to the key route freedom seekers took to escape slavery through Pennsylvania into New York and ultimately, Canada. Now, a 7.6 mile route from the Delaware state line following Route 52 to the northern boundary of Pocopson Township will bring the Byway and the story into Pennsylvania and encourage planning for the rest of the journey. It will connect our region with the significant story told at the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad National Historic Park just outside Cambridge, Maryland and will incorporate southern Chester County's part in the greater story of this phase of our nation's past.

Locations along and nearby the Byway corridor will include interpretive centers that tell the story, documented "stations" along the route, Friends Meeting Houses, where slavery and freedom were debated, AME churches and homes of free African Americans, and materials that reflect both the path of the escaping slaves and the actions and lives of ordinary people who did extraordinary things. Significant Kennett Township sites are the Longwood Progressive Meeting and the Dr. Bartholomew Fussell House known as the "Pines."

To join the planning effort or to learn more, email kennett.twp@kennett.pa.us and ask to be connected with Karen Marshall.

Photo Credits: Kennett Underground Railroad Center, 120 N. Union Street, Kennett Square, PA. Harriet Tubman Museum and Educational Center, 424 Race Street, Cambridge, MD.

An Additional 107 Acres Protected

Jeff Yetter, Chair, Land Conservation Advisory Committee

2022 saw the permanent protection of 107 acres of Kennett Township open space across two properties. The first project protects a seven-acre woodland and stream corridor with a pond and wetland that provide both abundant habitat and water quality benefits. The woodland on the parcel fully buffers the stretch of stream and helps filter stormwater runoff from the road and neighboring communities. Funding for the conservation easement was provided by Kennett Township and Chester County.

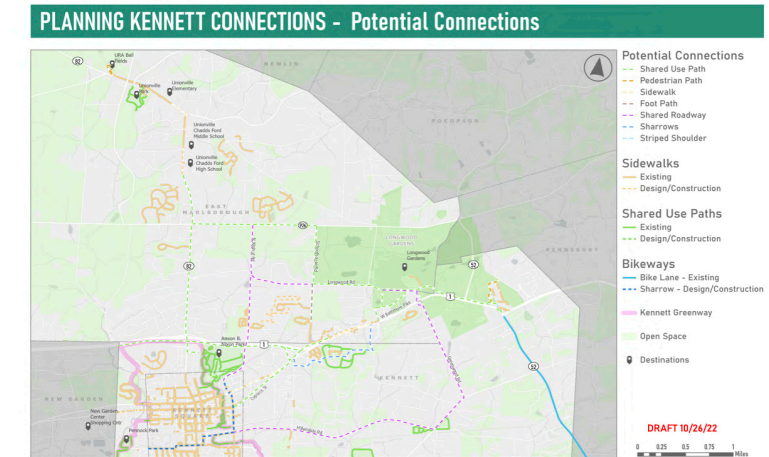
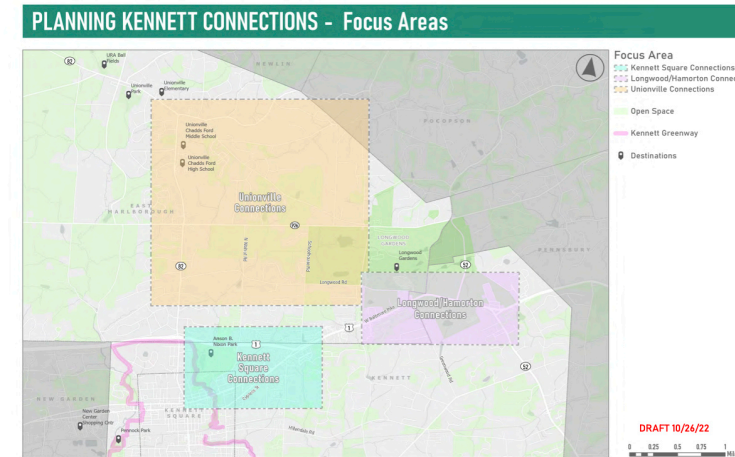
The second project is a 100-acre easement that protects a combination of active agricultural lands as well as woodland edges, hedgerows, stream corridors, riparian buffers and a 20+ acre freshwater wetland. Freshwater wetlands are a vital ecosystem that provides food, water, and habitat for a wide variety of flora and fauna. Wetlands are one of the most endangered habitats in the area and both 2022 conservation projects protected one. The 100-acre easement was funded by the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Chester County, and Kennett Township. Both easements are held by Brandywine Red Clay Alliance, formerly The Land Conservancy for Southern Chester County.

Planning Kennett Connections Project

The Future of Walking and Biking Between Kennett Borough, Kennett Township, Longwood Gardens and East Marlborough

Christina Norland, Chair, Trails & Sidewalks Committee

Do you wish that you could safely walk or bike to more places in the Kennett area? With funding from Chester County, Kennett Township and other local governments have teamed up to plan for new pedestrian- and bike-friendly connections in the region.



This plan will evaluate potential connections between key destinations in Kennett Township, Kennett Square Borough, and East Marlborough Township, including Longwood Gardens. The plan will focus on identifying potential sidewalks, trails, and on-road biking facilities in the following areas:

- Eastern area: Connections to the Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway and the Route 52 Bikeway
- Northwestern area: Connections to Unionville, Willowdale, and Unionville Road (Route 82)
- Western area: Connections to downtown Kennett Square, Anson B. Nixon Park, and the Kennett Greenway

McMahon & Associates is leading the study and has formed a steering committee that includes many Kennett Township representatives. The study began in April of this year and the first public workshop was held in October. At that meeting, residents were able to review some preliminary options for bicycle and pedestrian routes connecting our broader community. Check them out online: www.kennectivity.com/planning-kennett-connections.

If you missed that meeting, no worries! You can find all the workshop information on the project's website above. Another public workshop will be held in February. Subscribe to the Township's email list (www.kennett.pa.us/list.aspx) for information on the next meeting.

BARKINGFIELD PARK BRIDGE

Diane McGovern, Trails & Sidewalks Committee

Barkingfield Park received the gift of a new foot bridge for the holidays. Arriving the day before Thanksgiving, the bridge allows for easy transit between the two large fields at Barkingfield. Invasive shrubs around the site were cleared as part of the installation. Many thanks to the Kennett Township Public Works Department for making the Barkingfield experience safer and more enjoyable.



KASC
Kennett Area Senior Center
Debra Parrish, Program Coordinator



Since reopening its doors in April, the Kennett Area Senior Center (KASC), a community staple since 1971, continues to flourish. With approximately 4,000 square feet of programming space, KASC is dedicated to serving Chester County residents 50 and better. Daytime, evening and occasional weekend programs are provided with a focus on keeping participants active, healthy, independent and involved.

Walk into KASC and the first thing you'll notice is our beautiful, rejuvenated space. A generous individual donation from former KASC Board member, Julie Carroll Noolan, afforded the opportunity to rejuvenate the programming spaces. The Center is bright and airy and serves to support an environment that is warm and welcoming. Additionally, with the help of a grant from the Longwood Foundation, the Center's kitchen was expanded and updated. It is overseen by a kitchen manager who takes meal planning to new heights!

On any given day you can find the Center filled with participants involved in any of the programs below (just a small sampling):

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <i>Alzheimer's Support Group</i> | <i>Genealogy</i> |
| <i>Living History Storytelling</i> | <i>Intro to Meditation</i> |
| <i>Health & Wellness Workshops</i> | <i>Book Club</i> |
| <i>Information & Assistance</i> | <i>Line Dancing</i> |
| <i>Digital Photography Club</i> | <i>Maker's Craft Club</i> |
| <i>Technology Lessons for Seniors</i> | <i>Daytime Bingo</i> |
| <i>Weekly Produce & Bread Distribution</i> | <i>SilverSneakers Classic</i> |
| <i>Musical Guests & Guest Speakers</i> | <i>Medicare Counseling</i> |
| <i>Group Murder Mystery Party</i> | <i>Chair Yoga</i> |
| <i>New Horizons: Documentaries</i> | <i>Pot Luck Lunches</i> |

Lunch is served daily (with registration required by Monday of the previous week). Also during the year KASC hosts our infamous bi-annual indoor yard sale and special events, such as this year's Veteran's Day Ceremony, Holiday Luncheon and the upcoming Spring 2023 "Senior Prom."

If you're looking for the perfect space for your next baby shower, engagement party or 90th birthday party (and we've had them all), rental space is available in two different rooms for up to 60 or 115 guests.

More information can be found on our new website www.kennettSeniorcenter.org or feel free to stop by! KASC is located at 427 S. Walnut Street, KSQ, (610) 444-4819 and is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



(From L to R) A bounty of bread is available each day! KASC Autumn Pot Luck Lunch. Brenda Sharp & Lou DiFilippo dance cheek to cheek!

KACS
Kennett Area Community Service
Kecia Crowl, Communications & Engagement Director



Kennett Area Community Service is a nonprofit charity providing essential life-sustaining services to people living in Southern Chester County - home of the Kennett Food Cupboard, KACS Emergency Assistance Services, and KACS Bridges Out of Poverty workshops.

We have experienced a 30% increase over last year, due in part to the continuing effects of COVID-19, an economic downturn, and soaring inflation. In October 2022, our Emergency Assistance Team supported 103 households to maintain or establish stable housing and prevent homelessness. KACS Food Cupboard served healthy, nutritious food to 735 families (over 2,000 individuals). During this time they distributed 73,355 pounds of food - 16,953 pounds of this food came from Community Donations.



"I want to express my sincere gratitude to the local organizations and community members who help KACS help our neighbors in need. Their numerous donations and food drives have helped KACS provide for so many individuals, seniors, and families." - Leah Reynolds, Executive Director of KACS

We still need your help! This holiday, we are collecting new toys for the hundreds of children whose families have come to KACS for support. If you wish to participate in the KACS Toy Drive, please drop off the toys at KACS Food Cupboard, 136 West Cedar Street - Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. before December 15th.

And back by popular demand, Cocktails for KACS will be hosted by Letty's Tavern on December 14th, 6 - 9:00 p.m. Join KACS for an evening of festivities, food, and the unveiling of this year's KACS signature cocktail! Tickets are \$30 and available on our website: <https://kacsimpact.org/events/>.

Mark your calendars for KACS 2023 Empty Bowls event! We are excited to see everyone this year on February 23, 2023. We will offer in-person and take-out options, more information coming soon!

Visit www.KACSimpact.org for more ways to support KACS's mission or if you need help with food or housing.

Thank you for all you do to love your neighbor!

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance Doesn't Slow Down in Winter!
Abbie Kessler, Land Preservation Director



Our education staff are actively planning and hosting school and scout programs on our preserves and can plan lessons for your group if interested. Programs can be hosted right here in Kennett Township at our Chandler Mill Nature Preserve for easy access to area schools and families. Contact Alexa Hart, ahart@brandywineredclay.org, for options and scheduling information.

The popular Books and Boots program continues twice monthly now through May on Thursday mornings. Little ones and their adults get a morning story, hike, and take-home craft. Check the website below for future program dates and more info.

Save the Date! The running of the 80th annual Brandywine Hills Point to Point will be held April 1, 2023 at Brandywine Red Clay Alliance's Myrick Conservation Center.

Watershed Conservation Director Brian Winslow is conducting a watershed study on the West Branch Red Clay Creek through the western side of Kennett Township. This plan, being completed in partnership with Clauser Environmental and funded by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and E. Kneale Dockstader Foundation, required water sampling back in the summer and a creek walk of the complete section within the study this fall. Data will be used to create a plan to determine areas of the creek that could benefit from some type of restoration. Plans completed for other creeks have been used to analyze and then implement miles of stream restoration for improved water quality that benefits all residents.



Aaron Clauser conducting stream assessment as part of a watershed study of the West Branch Red Clay Creek.

BRC preserves contain over 25 miles of trails open daily year-round so check out one of the Kennett properties or stop in at Myrick for a winter walk on the land. One recent preserve addition is a Kennett Library provided PULL station (pop-up lending library) decorated and installed by Land Steward Carl Hutchinson this year at our New Leaf Sensory Garden. Stop by and see what else is new at each of the preserves!

www.brandywineredclay.org

Kennett Area Park Authority
2022 Review
Sheila Tekavec, Office Manager



ANSON B. NIXON PARK
 KENNETT SQUARE

It has been a busy year in the park. In March, we enjoyed the return of the Trout Rodeo with help from Brandywine Red Clay Alliance. The weather was perfect, the attendance was high, and now we are busy planning for next spring's event!

The Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA) is currently managing several forestry projects. The emerald ash boring beetle has taken a toll in this region, and Anson B. Nixon Park was not spared. This summer, more than 200 trees were taken down. Work is ongoing, but there has been great progress already. The underbrush was treated to eliminate invasive species, and more than 300 native trees were planted by volunteers in October. Funding was made possible for this project by grant awards from the Chester County Parks + Preservation Park and Trail Improvement and the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful/ GIANT Healing the Planet programs.

Funding from the PECO/Natural Lands Green Region Open Space program along with a separate grant from Chester County Parks + Preservation is defraying expenses for the new Serenity Pollinator Garden, to be completed in 2023.

Pickleball nets have been put to very good use, and soccer goals were recently assembled on the athletic fields. A grant from the Longwood Rotary Foundation paid for a new accessible swing which will be delivered and installed soon!

KAPA recently held a community meeting to discuss capital improvements to the historic Water Works buildings, with enthusiastic feedback from those who attended. Restoration of these 3 building and improvements to the spaces around them will allow us to serve our growing community in inclusive and meaningful ways for generations to come.

If you are interested in volunteering for KAPA, please email: abnvolunteer@gmail.com – assistance is needed in several areas. We hope to see you in the park soon!



Kennett Collaborative Update

Tara Smith, Writer and Special Projects Manager

Kennett Collaborative has been busy planning a full schedule of events and programs for 2023. By the time you read this, you'll be enjoying our "Christmas in Kennett" town Christmas tree, planters, K2 sculpture floral installation, new lights and lighted garland, and more. The new sidewalk lighting along State Street will remain in place all year long, creating a warm and welcoming ambiance for shoppers, diners, and pedestrians.



The best way to be in the know about what's going on in Kennett is to subscribe to Kennett Collaborative's weekly "Around the Square" e-newsletter. Around the Square arrives in your inbox every Saturday morning and includes fresh content—about local people, programs, new and existing businesses, nonprofit organizations and more—as well as a community calendar, links, and information about a variety of local events. You can subscribe to Around the Square at KennettCollaborative.org or use the QR code above.

Another year-round program of Kennett Collaborative is the KSQ Farmers Market. Find fresh, local produce and more throughout the winter season every Friday afternoon from 3pm–5pm at The Creamery, 401 Birch Street. You can sign up to receive the weekly KSQ Farmers Market Newsletter, with vendor and product updates and pre-ordering options, at KSQFarmersMarket.com.

Our new website, KennettCollaborative.org, features a helpful listing of retail businesses, restaurants, and local attractions. We encourage everyone to continue to shop and dine local through the winter months to support our small businesses and keep our local economy strong.



Kennett Collaborative helps make Kennett thrive. We intentionally create programs and events that help Kennett become a more beautiful and welcoming community where all can belong and prosper.

Great Communities Build Great Libraries

HELP US BUILD THE NEW
KENNETT LIBRARY & RESOURCE CENTER
Amanda Murphy, Dir. of Marketing & Communications



Libraries are one of the few places in our society where you can come to just be. With no expectation of purchase, membership, or dues, we are a safe space for all in our community.

We are the connective tissue in our town; a public common for civic engagement, a vital resource to those who need access to wi-fi, computers, and digital information. We are a place to meet, learn, teach, share, connect, and expand horizons.

Plans for the new \$21.7 million, 33,425 square foot Kennett Library & Resource Center are on track to open in Spring of 2023, and with it, endless possibilities for our community. Our new building will offer two makerspaces, a 110-seat auditorium, meeting and study rooms, and an audio-visual room and more.

We're so close to meeting our campaign goal, but we still need your support. We mean it when we say, "Great Communities Build Great Libraries." Your gift is an investment in the future of our beloved community and will help us serve the public for generations. Learn how you can help at <https://campaign4.kennettlibrary.org>.

In 2022, the Library offered 1,000 free programs for children, teens, and adults in person and virtually. Programs like ESL classes, art workshops, family story time, nature camp, book groups, webinars, author talks, and more.

This summer our Toddler Nature Camp in Anson B. Nixon Park attracted 150 toddlers over four weeks. This was the perfect opportunity for children and families to connect with nature. Similarly, our lecture series with the KSQ Farmers Market returned for its second year and brought in local experts to talk about the importance of trees in our lives.

For questions or more information about donating to the Capital Campaign, please contact Mary Hutchins at 302-547-2089 or mary@kennettlibrary.org.

For a calendar of events and programs visit www.kennettlibrary.org.



When Two Teams Unite: HOW LOCAL FIRE COMPANIES WORK TOGETHER TO SERVICE THE AREA Longwood & Kennett Fire Companies

You have probably noticed it has been a busy year for the fire companies. If it feels like you have noticed more fire trucks than usual responding to calls, you are not going crazy. Crews from Longwood Fire Company (LFC) and Kennett Fire Company #1 (KFC) have been joining each other on calls consistently throughout the year. We are happy to report that both fire companies have been able to respond with "engine" crews and "special service" crews on most calls.



An Engine is tasked with putting out a fire. There are a lot of tools on an Engine, but its primary job is to (1) carry the hose necessary to bring water to the fire and (2) pump the water through the hose and onto the fire. A "Special Service" apparatus could be either a Ladder, a Tower, or a Rescue Truck. While all of these pieces have "special" features unique to those types of apparatus, their main jobs are to support the engine company in putting out the fire. In the photo above, the Engine is on the right and the Special Service (in this case a Ladder) is on the left.

Firefighters train on all pieces of apparatus and in each position. Recently, members of both fire stations visited West Chester's Training Campus to practice drills with live fire. This type of training helps staff learn from one another and test pre-designated strategies and tactics. Just like in music or sports, practicing with all members of the team help ensure they are hitting all the right notes and in-sync with one another. With a baseline established, next steps will be to continue to practice between the companies. We hope this helps explain why you may see more trucks on the street and how it helps us provide the best service to our community!

For more info, reach out to us! www.longwoodfireco.com www.firestation24.com



(From Top) A "Ladder" crew from LFC (in tan) gear up to make entry and begin a search, while the Engine crew from KFC (in black) prepare to advance the hose line into the structure.

Joe Wendling (right, volunteer at KFC) recently earned his Interior Firefighting certification while Jared Poole (left) has been a career firefighter with both LFC & KFC for many years.

Ralph Hunter, long-time volunteer at KFC, unrolls a hose line for quick deployment.

Photos courtesy of Justin Durner Photography

Oh, The Holidays! DECORATE, TASTE – WATCH YOUR WASTE! Patti Lynn, Recycling Resources Manager Chester County Solid Waste Authority



Quick – what time of year generates the most trash for landfills? That's right, it's the holiday season. Online shopping and shipping, wrapping paper, more uneaten food, toys, and electronics being replaced. You get the idea. Household waste increases about 25% this time of year!

Can you be more TrashSmart? Try these ideas (or even just one!):

- Downsize – Smaller gathering, less decorations, careful gifting* so you create less waste
- Reusable, durable plates and silverware, cups, napkins, tablecloths (ask about renting)
- Shop (and wrap!) with reusable bags!
- Plan for guests to bring a dish in their own containers they can take back home, OR
- Have guests bring reusable containers for leftovers they may take home
- Cleaning the house – old socks for dusting rags; microfiber fleece cloths are washable
- Vinegar for glass surfaces
- Electronic invitations – Evite®, Greenvelope, Punchbowl®, Zazzle, Inc.
- Online resources can help you plan how much food you need (www.savethefood.com)
- Homemade food and gifts show your creativity, time, and effort
- Reusable, useful containers such as cookies in a flowerpot, or jewelry in a new pair of gloves
- * Gifts for experiences – tickets to an event, museum or zoo membership, cooking class or trip
- * Gifts of your time – Babysitting, pet sitting, gardening help, lessons for a new hobby, teach someone a new skill
- * Gift cards for services, not goods – gas stations, car washes, hair/nail salon, massage, lawn service, audio books, pet services

RECYCLING BIN: Non-metallic wrapping paper and greeting cards without batteries

COMPOST: Evergreens, tea bags, coffee grounds, leaves, twigs, fresh cranberries

GARBAGE CAN: Cellophane, tissue paper, musical greeting cards, plastic ware

BATTERIES are special - [Here's what to do with them](#)

So, this year...celebrate how mindful you are with sustainable consumption and disposal practices. What GOOD behaviors and habits can YOU start on your way to being TrashSmart? And New Year's resolutions are just around the corner...

HAVE AN EMERGENCY? CALL 911

Non-Emergency Phone Numbers:

Police Non-Emergency Dispatch: 610-268-3171

KTPD Administration Office: 610-388-2874

KTPD Public Works After Hours: 610-444-5130

Longwood Fire Company: 610-388-6880

Kennett Fire Company: 610-444-4810

Board of Supervisors 2023 Reorganization Meeting

Join us on Tuesday, January 3, 2023 for the annual Board of Supervisors Reorganization Meeting. The Board will vote on the Township's consultants, fee schedules, committee appointments, and meeting schedule for all of 2023. After the meeting, you will be able to find the complete calendar of events on our website: www.kennett.pa.us/calendar

Meeting location to be determined.
Stay tuned to our website for all the details.



Here at Kennett Township, we are striving to be financially responsible with every decision. That is why we are providing this newsletter digitally via our website:

www.kennett.pa.us/156/Newsletters.

This also helps save trees! Still want a paper copy? Simply call the Township office at 610-388-1300 to arrange to pick one up.



From all of us here at Kennett Township, we wish you and yours a safe, happy holiday and New Year!

Best Practices

HEATING FIRE SAFETY

Put all fires out completely



Before going to bed or leaving the house, double check that embers are out in wood stoves and fireplaces.

Clean Your Chimneys



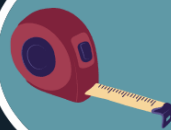
Have a professional chimney sweep inspect and clean your heating system annually.

Space Heaters can be Smart



Make sure the heater has an automatic shut-off, so if it tips over, it shuts off.

Keep a Safe Distance



Make sure your stoves and space heaters are at least 3 feet from anything that can burn (including furniture).

Did you know that heating equipment caused one in seven home structure fires (14%) that took place in 2014–2018 (NFPA, 2021)? There are several small things you can do to make your home safer and warmer this winter!