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www.kennett.pa.us
kennett.twp@kennett.pa.us

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ktpd@kennett.pa.us

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Richard L. Leff, Vice Chair
Whitney S. Hoffman, Supervisor
kennett.twp@kennett.pa.us

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Executive Assistant/PC Secretary
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Meeting Info

- Board of Supervisors**
Public Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesday .. 7:00 pm
- Business Advisory Committee – as needed**
- Communications Committee – as needed**
- Environmental Advisory Committee**
4th Tuesday each month 7:30 pm
- Historical Commission**
4th Tuesday each month 7:00 pm
- Land Conservation Advisory Committee**
3rd Thursday each month 7:00 pm
- Planning Commission**
1st Tuesday each month 6:30 pm
2nd Tuesday each month 7:00 pm
- Safety Committee**
2nd Wednesday each month 7:00 pm
- Trails & Sidewalks Committee**
1st Tuesday each month 1:00 pm

Newsletter Info

Editor

Cathy Rowe, Administrative Coordinator

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HOW YOUR SUPERVISORS SPENT THEIR SUMMER

*By Scudder G. Stevens, Esq., Chairman,
Richard L. Leff, MD, Vice-Chairman
Whitney S. Hoffman, Treasurer and Member*

This past summer was definitely eventful. There was lots of news, both good and bad.

On the good side, after a very thorough search process, we recently hired a new Township Manager, Eden Ratliff, whose first official day was September 23. All the Supervisors are thrilled to have Eden aboard. His energy, impressive training and experience throughout the Commonwealth will definitely bring fresh eyes and new ideas to our township!

Meanwhile, all three Supervisors spent time not only selecting our new manager, but also working with our Interim Township Manager Alison Rudolph to conduct a thorough step-by-step review of all the Township’s on-going programs, projects, staff, facilities, systems and procedures – something we felt was critical to ensure a smooth transition for Eden and to address extremely serious challenges which came to light in April.

As you probably know, we needed a new Township Manager because our previous Township Manager was placed on administrative leave on May 1 after the Township’s bank alerted us to suspicious transactions in our accounts. The same day the bank alerted us, we reviewed the bank’s concerns and with counsel from Kennett Township Chief of Police Lydell Nolt, we immediately involved the Chester County District Attorney’s office, which began a criminal fraud investigation.

To support the DA’s investigation, the Supervisors also began an internal investigation of Township finances and when additional information became available, we unanimously voted to terminate the previous Township Manager on May 17.

It was a shocking and sad time for Kennett Township.

The Supervisors quickly realized the seriousness of the situation and that we needed highly-skilled professional help to examine each part of the Township’s records, transactions and financial systems. We had to know the extent of the problems, how long they had been going on, and who was responsible. Everything had to be done professionally, thoroughly and in a manner that would restore trust in township finances.

We interviewed several forensic accounting firms and hired one to conduct a detailed investigation of all the township’s financial transactions, wherever that might lead. We hired a communications adviser to help us set up ways to keep everyone as informed as possible. We later hired a law firm in anticipation of needing additional help in the recovery of funds.

But there was even more that took place. Each supervisor personally took over supervision of one or more critical operational areas, which often meant working an additional 40+ hours every week in addition to our normal full-time jobs.

We took over responsibility for the township’s finances, which included learning about every Township

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HOW YOUR SUPERVISORS SPENT THEIR SUMMER

Continued from Page 1

account (there are many), working to reset access to all of the accounts, understanding how the Township processes its payroll and disbursements and precisely how each township check is approved, issued and processed. This new knowledge proved valuable as the forensic auditors re-examined every expenditure the township made over the last decade. That investigation is also ongoing, and the results are due later this year.

Needless to say, the detailed knowledge we all gained this summer will also be very useful in supporting our new manager as Eden begins to implement improvements that will make the Township's operations more efficient, more transparent and more secure.

We worked with experts who specialize in helping municipalities improve and protect their processes and procedures. From local accounting firms to large law firms, we've been very grateful for their sage advice, oversight and support.

We've also often met with Chester County District Attorney's office, who taught us how they investigate, document and build a case in preparation for legal decisions they might make on our Township's behalf – including filing criminal charges and prosecuting cases.

We also interacted with Township staff and advisers a great deal more. We learned more about what they do and what issues they face every day performing their diverse functions. Our appreciation and respect for them has grown, particularly given the difficult circumstances of the last few months.

We met often with the Township's many wonderful volunteer committees and task forces who contribute so much to making Kennett Township the truly great community it is.

Finally, in the process of hiring Eden, we got to know Alison Rudolf, a very experienced township manager whom we brought on board as Interim Manager to keep the township running and assist the Supervisors during their reviews. She gave us great perspectives on how our Township operates – and suggested ways to make it even better.

We engaged Dave Woglom of Lafayette University's Meyner Center to help us conduct our search for a new Township Manager. We asked Dave why someone would want to be Kennett Township's Manager. He explained that we are a very forward-thinking Township with a great tax base, a variety of residential options, a strong open space program, and a lot of growth potential – in other words, a great job opportunity for any aspiring Township manager!

And last, we especially want to thank all our Township residents and friends who have been patient and supportive these past months. We regret there are many things we cannot yet discuss due to the investigations.

Throughout this long and challenging summer, we've been proud to serve you and to maintain the high quality of service that Kennett Township residents and businesses have come to expect and deserve.

To the Residents of Kennett Township,

It is with honor and humility that I have accepted the opportunity to serve as your Township Manager. The goal of this letter is to introduce myself to you personally and professionally and, in doing so, hopefully answer some questions you may have. This is the first step toward earning your trust and demonstrating to you how strongly I believe in transparency.

I will begin with a brief biography, although I mainly want to focus on the



present and the future. First things first, I was born and raised in West Chester. My grandmother made it a point to bring my brothers and I to Longwood Gardens almost every year. Since childhood, I have admired the beauty of this area. As I grew up, I began to ride motorcycles with my father and was able to enjoy Kennett's aesthetic in a new way. Whether

on foot, two wheels, or four, I have always felt that this place was special.

I graduated with my Bachelor's degree in Political Science followed by a Master's degree in Employment and Labor Relations from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Currently, I am finishing my second Master's degree in Public Management from Johns Hopkins University. I have also worked in municipal government for roughly five years as a borough manager for two towns—Ford City and Greencastle, PA. For more information regarding my qualifications, my resume has been published at <https://www.kennett.pa.us/DocumentCenter/View/3638/eden-ratliff>.

These experiences have shaped me in more ways than what I am probably conscious of. This field of work can be grueling, but it is always rewarding. Although it was a very difficult decision to leave Greencastle, it was the right decision for my wife Gabby and I. We have fallen in love with the charms and culture that Kennett possesses (not to mention the Creamery), and we are incredibly excited to make it home. It's simply the perfect fit for our family.

Many of you are probably apprehensive and concerned about the present situation in Kennett Township, and those feelings are valid. While I cannot speak to details yet, please be assured that the Board of Supervisors, our solicitor, our Interim Manager, and myself are all working with commitment toward progress. The road ahead will not be easy, and there will be many changes along the way. My promise to you is that I will operate the Township with professionalism and integrity.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Township Manager. I look forward to meeting you, working with you, and shaping the future of Kennett Township with you. Please feel free to introduce yourself or reach out to me at Eden.Ratliff@kennett.pa.us.

Sincerely,

Edén R. Ratliff
Township Manager

Water Mills of Kennett Township

by Denise Schalleur Klein,
Kennett Township Historical Commission

Water mills have played an important part of Kennett Township's history. And, in spite of the seemingly limited flow of the Burrows Run stream and the Red Clay Creek and its tributaries, many mills sprang up along these waterways, especially where there were natural waterfalls.

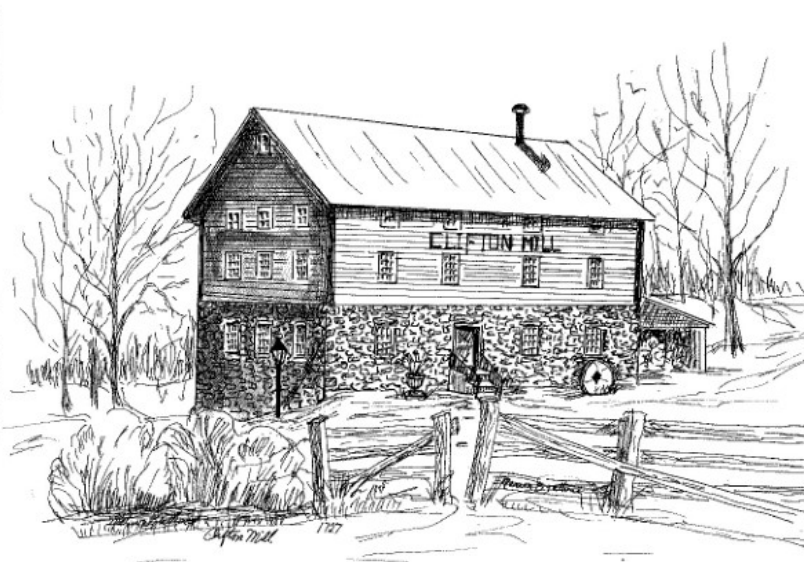
Most mills were used to grind corn, but other grains were also milled. Some were multipurpose mills. Grain (grits), saw (timber) and paper mills were established in the Township. Mills made it possible to provide larger quantities of staple foods to more people and their livestock. Mills, milling and millers were also critical to feed and house the community and contributed to supporting the ever growing population. So important was milling that laws were made to exempt millers from taxes and even military service which, interestingly, meant they were subjected to government regulation.

Availability of stream and cheap electricity eventually made water mills obsolete, but some historic water mills continue to operate in the US. **Sills Mill**, **Clifton Mill**, the **William Gregg Mill**, and the **Thomas Marshall Mill** are a few of the historic mills of Kennett Township which are still standing today, although not in operation as mills.

Sills Mill is located at the intersection of Sills Mill and Bayard

Roads. Documentation on this grist mill dates back to 1747. Owners, over time, include the Levis, Marshall and Sill families. Through the years the property passed through various hands but the name has remained Sills Mill. In the late 1970's, the mill was transformed into a modern private residence with parts of the original mill structure still visible.

Clifton Mill is located on the east branch of the Red Clay Creek, south of Kennett Square where Old Kennett Road and Creek Road intersect. The grist mill was built between 1715 and 1741 and was powered by an overshot water wheel 16 feet high. The mill operated until 1936. Today it is an Antiques Shop. The current owners offer tours of the old mill from April through August. Call Clifton Mill to schedule a tour.



Pen and Ink Drawing by Marion B. Guthrie

The **William Gregg Mill** is located on a tributary of the west Branch of the Red Clay Creek, off Kaolin Road. It was built between 1817 and 1847. It was originally a saw mill but today is a private residence.

The **Thomas Marshall Mill**, near the intersection of Creek Road (Route 82) and Marshall Bridge Road, was operating as a saw mill and grist mill by 1763. In 1896 the grist mill was converted to a paper mill by Thomas Marshall, who replaced the waterwheel with a steam engine. The paper mill was so successful, the operation moved down the road to Yorklyn, DE, and later became the successful National Vulcanized Fiber Company. In 2008 the Marshall's large home and estate became Delaware's Auburn Valley State Park with the world's largest collection of operational steam cars.

Today, we are still benefiting from the success of one of those early Mills!

For more information on Township Mills and History, please contact the Township Office.



Mark Your Calendar!

A REMINDER FROM THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Don't forget the Kennett Township Historical Commission meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Township building on Burrows Run Road. All are welcome to join us as we focus on collecting, preserving and sharing our Township's history. If you'd like to see what we've got, or if you have any items you'd like to donate, please let us know. We welcome contributions of books, pamphlets, letters, photos and other memorabilia.

Contact Sara Meadows at 610-388-1300 or sara.meadows@kennett.pa.us to set up an appointment.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE MEADOW AT BARKINGFIELD PARK?

by Kathryn Pearlstine Freilich, Land Stewardship Coordinator

Work is in progress in the lower meadow area to simultaneously

- Improve and demonstrate rain water management on-site using contour swales
- Enhance the meadow environment

Why is rain water management important?

The increased heavy rainfalls in our area are a major concern for flooding. When all the rain that falls on a site is not absorbed into the ground, the rainwater, also called stormwater, runs off quickly across the landscape into streams and neighboring properties and flooding occurs. Properties can be damaged and both water quality and quantity are impacted.



Cutting Contour Swale for rainwater infiltration at Barkingfield

If rainwater flows off site, across the land, and is not infiltrated back into the ground as healthy ecosystems work, critical ground water supplies do not get replenished. When groundwater levels drop, this becomes a concern to Kennett Township where over 70% of our residence draw drinking water from groundwater supplies. As stormwater travels across the landscape it picks up pollutants such as fertilizers, pesticides, road salts and oils, animal waste and soil. The desired state is to have all rainwater that falls on a site, stay on that site and ultimately seep back into the ground. That way flooding and erosion are minimized and our drinking water supply and streams are protected.

What is the contour swale project at Barkingfield?

Local landscape architect Margot Taylor, whose home property in Kennett Township is a model for sustainable landscaping practices, proposed this project. Taylor's property demonstrates similar rainwater management systems across her site and effectively

manages a 5" rain event. Impassioned to help Kennett and educate others she generously donated her time and expertise to lead the design and implementation of the Countour Swale Project at Barkingfield Park. This project will benefit the site and serves as a demonstration of how easy this can be for others to do similar projects on their own properties. Three contour swales have been constructed and foot trails realigned and integrated. The swales have been cut following the contours of the land and are level with the grade with no outflow designed in. Swales on contour catch the rainwater and hold it in place allowing it to be absorbed into the ground. Level swales reduce rain water runoff and the quantity of rainwater that contributes to flooding.

What is the meadow improvement project at Barkingfield?

The original park plan for Barkingfield Park included a large sunflower plot along with butterfly and pollinator garden areas. The sunflowers were planted, but were quickly eaten by deer. The subsequent growth has been managed by mowing schedule, but has become dominated by non-native cool season grasses and dogbane. While dogbane is a native flowering plant, it spreads very aggressively so the meadow has very limited diversity and the pollinator value of dogbane alone is fairly low. The meadow is being re-established with a larger diversity of plants with blooms across the seasons from spring into late fall. This diversity will benefit our native butterflies and pollinators and provide a more attractive meadow for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.

Stream Restoration to Improve Red Clay Creek at Anson B. Nixon Park

By James E. Jordan, Jr., Executive Director, Brandywine Red Clay Alliance

Brandywine Red Clay Alliance (BRC) is pleased to implement stream restoration of 4,400 feet of the East Branch of the Red Clay Creek at Anson B. Nixon Park. This project is a continuation of our Stream Restoration plan as part of our Red Streams Blue program. Since 2010, BRC has completed three projects on 4,800 feet of the Red Clay Creek.

The plan seeks to improve the creek to move it from a "red" impaired stream to a "blue" un-impaired stream by reducing sediment, nitrogen and phosphorus levels in the stream. On each of these projects we reduce stream bank erosion through stabilization of stream banks and in-stream structures to reduce erosion and create habitat for fish and aquatic life and planting of a forested and native plant buffer.

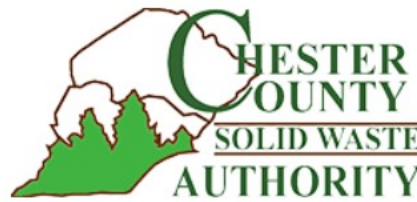
At Nixon Park, this project will also help to protect trails and existing structures at the park from stream erosion and improve access to the stream. Construction on the project could begin this winter if permits are issued on time. Our partner for this project is Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA), together we've secured funding for the design of the project from a Growing Greener Grant of \$77,000 and a National Fish and Wildlife Foundation grant of \$250,000. Additional funding will come from Kennett Township and the Borough of Kennett Square and additional grants.



Members of KAPA Board review restoration plan on eroding stream bank that is threatening trail.

Residential Only

Businesses and Contractors
Will Be Turned Away
www.chestercountyswa.org



Please Note:
No Electronics Will Be Accepted
No Freon Appliances
Maximum Amount Accepted:
25 Gallons or 220 lbs
No Metal Drums

2019 Chester County Household Hazardous Waste Events

All Events Start at 9 AM and Close at 3 PM Sharp

Saturday, October 12, 2019	GOVERNMENT SERVICES CENTER 601 Westtown Rd. West Chester, PA 19380
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For a list of items accepted and not accepted go to: www.chestercountyswa.org
Cardboard boxes should be taken home to recycle at the curb or local drop off facility

Recycling is alive and Chester County

Chester County residents “keep up the good work and keep making our recyclables cleaner.” The issue with recycling today is **CONTAMINATION**. When recyclables are clean and separated from trash correctly, there is a market for those items. **BUT ONLY** the items asked for. Educate the “wishful” recyclers who want to recycle everything. They have polluted the market with trash.

You should only recycle **CLEAN** mixed paper, corrugated cardboard, boxboard, aluminum and steel cans, glass bottles, and plastic containers 1-5 and 7, preferably with narrow necks.

WE DO NOT WANT THINGS LIKE YOUR RUBBER HOSES, PLASTIC KIDDIE POOLS, FOAM, TOYS, BASKETS OR ICE CHESTS.

Do not include plastic bags or any film plastic in your recycling bin. Plastic bags and film plastic can be taken back to the grocery store. Plastic bags will jam the machinery at the materials recovery facility where your recyclables are separated and baled for sale.

The Chester County recycling rate has been well over 60% for the last 6 years, and residents should be proud of their performance. Keep up the good work but remember

WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT!

Stormwater Opportunities and Challenges

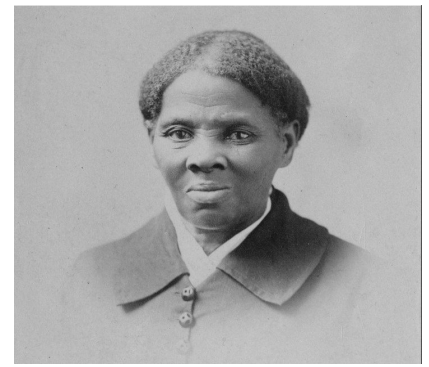
Join Township officials and engineering consultant AECOM on Tuesday October 29th at 7:00 in the Township meeting room for an informative presentation “Stormwater Opportunities and Challenges”. Topics will include:

- An overview of surface water quality issues
- Common misperceptions about stormwater
- What is polluting Chester County’s Waterways
- Description of Kennett Township’s efforts
- What you can do to help!



HARRIET

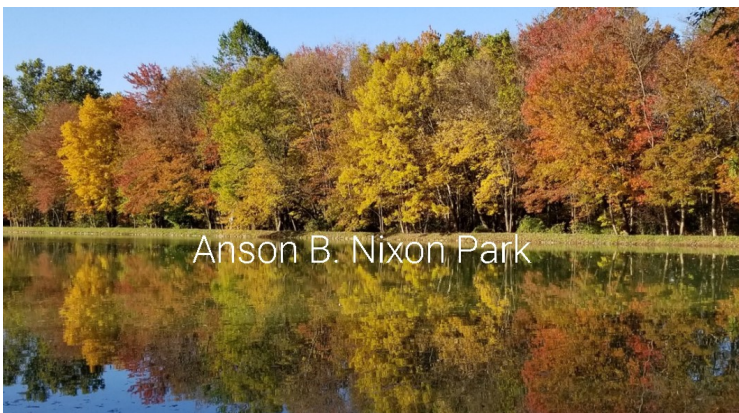
A major motion picture opening this fall
by Fredda Pennock, Historical Commission Member



According to Chris Densmore, local historian and Underground Railroad scholar, when Harriet Tubman led runaway slaves from the Eastern Shore, she frequently headed to the home of Thomas Garrett in Wilmington. Often, the next part of the race for freedom was north on the Kennett Pike to known stops in Chester County. From there they moved from safe house to safe house, ushered along largely by abolitionist Quakers. These brave people may have been helped by friends or family affiliated with area Friends at Old Kennett, Marlborough, and Longwood Progressive Friends Meetings. These “conductors” may also have been connected through the African Union Church in Wilmington, and their counterparts in Kennett Township.

It will certainly be interesting to see how much of a part Kennett Township safe houses play in the major motion picture called “HARRIET” slated to open in November. You can check out the [trailers on YouTube](#).

Another fun and exciting summer comes to a close at Anson B. Nixon Park and a great season it was. On September 7, the fifth annual benefit concert, Rock the Park, was headlined by the popular “Hoots and Hellmouth.” This year, the concert was moved to a new venue, the Mushroom Festival, where a huge tent assured that attendees could enjoy the full event in case of inclement weather. We thank the Mushroom Festival for providing the exciting venue this year. Kennett Area Park Authority (KAPA) gratefully thanks all the volunteers who helped make music in the Park and under the Festival tent incredible successes this year. We also extend appreciation to the many sponsors whose support made the concerts possible and vendors who provided scrumptious food and other refreshments each evening.



Anson B. Nixon Park

A complete list can be found on our website www.ansonbnixonpark.org.

Without the support of the community, Nixon Park and its events and activities would not be the valued asset they are.



ANSON B. NIXON PARK
KENNETT SQUARE

by Janice Taylor, Board Emeritus

In other news, KAPA is exploring forming a support organization to aid in driving awareness of the Park and building a sustainable endowment to benefit the Park. KAPA, as a municipal authority under Pennsylvania law, receives generous financial and in-kind assistance from Kennett Township and the Kennett Square Borough. That support does not approach the full cost of maintaining and operating the Park. The new organization will focus on means to not only assure adequate annual funding but provide sustainable support well into the future.

Check out the Park’s recently upgraded website - www.ansonbnixonpark.org. Over the past year or so, visitors have seen many improvements making their Park experience better than ever before: the more visible entrance road, large dog park, attractive signage and other features. You can look forward to a stream corridor restoration project next year, a contemplation space near the stream and much more. Fall is a great time visit, so see you there!

Artists are able to take marvels, and even natural disasters, and transform them into art. This reinvention and “upcycling” is one of their talents, using different resources that are available and creating with them. As a community art center, Chester County Art Association (CCAA) strives to encourage our artists to think outside of the box, using nontraditional materials in their practice. As a part of the art community, it is our role to also guide our artists to create opportunities to transform when they arise.



Joyce Neilan, a member of the Windon community here in West Chester, reached out to us because a beautiful Black Walnut tree had fallen in their neighborhood during a storm in July. The Black Walnut is native to North America and rare in the walnut family in the North East. Unfortunately, this one had been identified as hazardous and was scheduled to be taken down. Joyce’s initial reaction when the tree came down was that it could be turning into something new and equally beautiful.

We were thrilled to share this opportunity with two wood artists in the area to see if they would be able to utilize the downed tree. They accepted the challenge and spoke with Joyce about what they could make. They each took logs from the fallen tree, removing them from the property and into their studios.

Within their studios, each artist used the process known as Wood Turning. Greg Teter lives in West Chester, and Robert Caltabiano also resides in Chester County. Robert pointed out that, “any wood that has a high moisture content is difficult”, so to turn the wood, it first has to dry. In the process, a wood lathe holds the wood by either screwing into it or clamping on it, and equal amounts of pressure are applied to the wood. Once it is secure, a switch is flipped, rotating the wood at various paces. While the wood is turning, the artist uses metal tools to carve and shave away (or out) the excess wood, creating the desired shape, be that a bowl, plate, vase, tray or just a decorative piece.

While both Greg and Robert used wood turning, they both had different approaches, incorporating additional materials like resin, metal and other types of wood. Greg’s piece required a stepped process, which he described as “first - the bowl is rough shaped, left fairly thick and then placed in a bag along with enough walnut wood shavings for it to be completely surrounded. That took several



hours. Second - after the bowl dries for 8 to 10 weeks, it is turned again to the finished shape and size. That took several more hours which included adding brass inlay.” Greg only used the wood from the fallen Black Walnut whereas Robert created a segmented bowl that incorporated strips of the Black Walnut along with African Black Wood, and a bit of black resin. The results led to two beautiful bowls.



Through this time intensive process, our CCAA wood artists transformed the pieces of the tree into amazing pieces of artwork. Nothing can compare to the excitement of seeing first-hand how artists find beauty in everything – in this case, taking a fallen tree and making it into functional and decorative artwork. This sense of community is what we strive to bring to Chester County through the arts.

CCAA: www.chestercountyarts.org

Robert Caltabiano: <https://www.rjcwoodcreations.com/about>

Greg’s Email: woodenantler@gmail.com

Land Conservation Advisory Committee - 2019

By Joe Duffy, Land Conservation Advisory Committee

In 2005 Kennett Township, 76% of the voters voted to fund open space acquisitions with a .25% resident Earned Income Tax.

A recent survey of residents undertaken in March 2019 clearly confirmed again that the residents desire and value Open Space in Kennett Township. The #1 response was to improve trail networks, and #2 response was to preserve Open Space and the rural character of the Township.

The Land Conservation Advisory Committee (LCAC) has been working to fulfill that mandate. Kennett Township adopted Chester County's goal to conserve 30% of the Township as Open Space by 2030. Currently 20% of the land area in Kennett

**Experience Open Space
throughout Kennett Township.**

Township is conserved.

In the last 3 years, the Township has acquired over 200 acres of open space that will create a 170 acre preserve and a 45 acre park. Over \$3 million dollars in grants and private donations helped to save these properties from development and insure that Kennett residents will forever enjoy their beauty and recreational benefits. An additional 84 acres have been conserved privately.

Barkingfield Park: (named by a former owner for the foxes & hounds barking) – with 45 acres of trailed meadows and a dog park, located next to the Township Garage on Bayard Road.

Kennett Township Residents, you said you wanted Open Space!

Lord Howe: (named by the former owners for an island off Australia) – with 63+ acres of mostly wooded coverage along upper Burnt Mill Road.

Spar Hill: (named for the Feldspar mine located there and operated in the early 20th century) – with 103 acres is contiguous with the Lord Howe property's 63 acres to form a capsule of Kennett's agrarian past. Hiking trails and other passive recreation uses are being planned.

Open Space provides economic benefits in addition to the ecological, scenic, and other benefits to the public. Below is a link from Chester County detailing the Return on Environment for Open Space. See page 14, Community Cost Savings!.

https://econsultsolutions.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/Open-Space-ROE-FINAL_FOR-WEB_201905150942514589.pdf

We continue our work toward meeting our goals and to connect land tracts of open space to form a vast and continuous network, preserving Kennett's past and future. If you wish to inquire about a land donation or easement for preservation, contact the Kennett Township office to learn more.



NOTICE

**Kennett Fire and Emergency Services
Regional Commission meet
the second Tuesday of the month.**

Meetings will begin at 5:00 pm at the
Pennsbury Township Public Meeting Room located
at 702 Baltimore Pike, Chadds Ford, PA 19317.

The Kennett Emergency Services Commission consists of the following municipalities: Kennett Borough, Kennett Township, Pennsbury Township, East Marlborough Township, Pocopson Township, and Newlin Township.

If you wish to attend the meeting and are a person with a disability requiring an auxiliary aide, service or other accommodations to participate in it, please contact the Pennsbury Township office, 610-388-7323 to discuss how the Township can best accommodate your needs.



THE LAND CONSERVANCY FOR SOUTHERN CHESTER COUNTY

by Lea Gummey, Education Director

We are excited to for the arrival of cooler weather and all the programming opportunities the fall and winter seasons provide! Programs are available for all ages and interests with more added regularly. Check out TLC on Facebook for up to date program and event news.

On November 16, TLC will be joining more than 15 other local non-profits as beneficiaries of Fusion Racing's Music and Brew Fest. Sign-up for the TLC team at the inaugural Fusion for a Cause 5K to be held at Bellevue State Park in Delaware and enjoy free pizza, beer and music with other registrants while showing your love for the land! FusionRaceTiming.org

Also in November, TLC will be embracing *National Take a Hike Day* with a FREE guided hike at one of our hidden gems: Marshall Bridge Preserve.

Not only will you enjoy a good workout, but you can clear your mind, get some fresh air and take in the sights, sounds and smells of nature. FREE, but registration required.

tlcforscc.org/education



Learn to recognize a fresh egg mass laid by a spotted lanternfly, at left, and an older egg mass, closer to hatching, at right, in these images provided by the Lancaster County office of the Penn State Extension.

Going into the winter, please keep an eye out for the **Spotted Lanternfly egg masses!** Year-round sightings can be reported to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture via their online reporting site: <https://extension.psu.edu/have-you-seen-a-spotted-lanternfly>.

The Spotted Lanternfly impacts local fruit crops so please destroy any egg masses that you see. Be on the lookout for a muddy lump only a few inches big on tree bark or smooth surfaces like buildings and cars. Each egg mass can have 30-50 eggs in it so destroying even one is a big help in the fight against this pest!

See you on the land!



Kennett Library News

by Megan Walters, Library Director

Shiver me timbers! This summer at the Kennett Library was a success! We had so many great programs that we offered the community like our popular Maker Camp. This year we had two different sessions broken up into age groups. The older kids designed and manufactured their own ukuleles and the younger group teamed up to make sumo robots (SumoBots). We also had Culinary Literacy where everyone got to make food that related to a book and building your own birdhouse for bluebirds. We had movie nights, book club discussions, family chocolate bingo night and so much more! Phew! We did a lot!

We are a treasure trove of information and resources for our community, which is why we love our Adult Literacy Program that provides English as a Second Language classes, GED tutoring and assistance with American citizenship. In the past three months we have had 6 individuals that have passed their citizenship tests. This year the Adult Literacy Program is celebrating its 40th anniversary and we are so proud of what this program has offered to the community through the years. Here's to 40 more!

We definitely feel that "X Marks the Spot" at the Library, which is why our theme for the 3rd Annual Kennett Library Benefit on October 17th is based on *Treasure Island*. Victoria Wyeth will be the speaker at this event and for a sneak peek she did a *Treasure Island* storytime in August. We appreciate Victoria's support of the library and we appreciate all of our supporters within our community. If you or someone you know is interested in tickets for our Fall Benefit or if you want to check out our awesome programs that we offer please go to kennettlibrary.org. We hope to see you soon, mateys!



Kennett Library

Begin your journey here

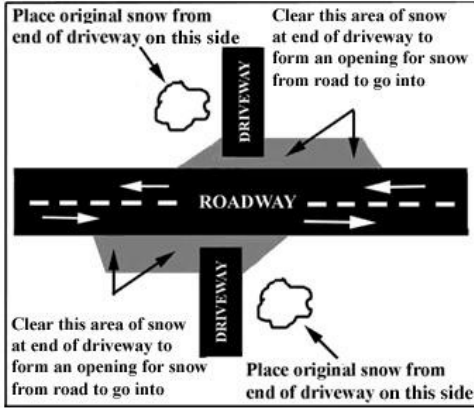
Our major summer projects are completed. The reconstruction and paving of West Hillendale Road (Kaolin to Chandler Mill Roads), and Chandler Mill Road between Kaolin and Ewart Roads, were completed early in the season. We then repaved Montbard and Normandy Drives, along with Elmwood Drive and Oak Lane.

The sealing program will be completed in late September. The scheduled roads are Burrows Mill Road, Hannum Road, Huntsman Path, Deerfield Lane, Patricia Lane, Willow Glen Drive, and Willow Glen Circle.

Trimming along Township roads will take place this fall and throughout the winter months.



By Roger Lysle
Public Works Director/
Roadmaster



The yard waste yard is being used heavily by our residents. New signs were installed listing items allowed and not allowed. Please read the sign upon entering the yard. Large amounts of unacceptable materials are being left which are not acceptable for recycling as yard waste. The additional cost of removing the unacceptable items, along with landfill dumping fees, have a definite affect on our yard waste recycling program.

Snow will arrive soon, along with the many problems associated with the snow removal from our Township roads. Refer to the diagram below for clearing snow from your driveways. Check your mailbox and post to be sure it is secure enough to handle snow from the plows. On trash days, do not put cans in the street. Keep them in the yard or on the driveway. Do not park on streets or cul-de-sacs during a snow storm.


Have **You** Signed Up for the Kennett Township eNewsletter?

If not, don't waste any more time. The eNewsletter provides important breaking news, critical alerts, and brief updates on issues —information that can be very beneficial to you and your family. Send an email to ktnewsletter@kennett.pa.us with your name and we will include you in the newsletter distribution list.

Promise: No Spam! And you can unsubscribe anytime.

How do I Sign Up for Emails and Electronic Communications from the Township?

Signing up for Kennett Townships Notify Me service is easy!

- Go to the Townships website www.kennett.pa.us
- On the top of the page, click: 
- On the Notify Me page, follow these instructions:
- Once you subscribe, you will receive a confirmation email for each category which you will need to confirm by clicking on the link in the email.
- If you have any questions or need assistance, contact the Township at 610-388-1300 or email michael.obrien@kennett.pa.us

Plant This! for a Fabulous Fall Landscape

By Eileen Hazard, Audience Development Coordinator, Mt. Cuba Center



Mt. CUBA CENTER

Gardening on a higher level



Great Blue Lobelia

Lobelia siphilitica

With showy, bell-shaped blue flowers, great blue lobelia flourishes in moist soil with filtered shade but will adapt to drier conditions with more shade. This perennial grows to 1-3 feet tall and blooms late summer to early fall. It is easily grown from seed and frequently self-sows.

New York Ironweed

Vernonia noveboracensis

New York ironweed is a hardy, perennial wildflower, reaching 5-7 feet tall, with clusters of purple flowers. It grows well in most soil conditions in full sun to filtered shade. Shorter cultivars are also available. Stay tuned as Mt. Cuba Center begins a 3-year study of Vernonia species and select cultivars in 2020!



Little Bluestem

Schizachyrium scoparium

A clumping grass with blue-green to green foliage, little bluestem is both heat and drought tolerant - needing little attention. This 2-4 feet tall grass provides wonderful autumn color. Silvery-white seed tufts and upright stems add winter interest to any garden area.

Hot Lips Lyon's Turtlehead

Chelone lyonii 'Hot Lips'

Lyon's turtlehead grows to 2-3 feet tall with rose-colored flowers on deep green foliage. Blooming in late summer through fall, this perennial does well in containers and borders, and is generally avoided by deer. It thrives in rich, moist soil and light shade.



Mt. Cuba Center offers gardening, conservation, art and wellness programming year-round.

Gardens open Wednesday – Sunday, 10 am – 4pm through November 17

mtcubacenter.org

3120 Barley Mill Road, Hockessin, DE

302.239.4244



The Kennett Area Park and Recreation Board (KAPRB) offers quality recreational programs for families in the Kennett Area and improves, develops, and manages park facilities.

Fall Programs	
KAPRB Blue Demons Field Hockey	The Fall Field Hockey program is offered to K-8 th grade girls and boys. Teams practice weekly with Saturday games
Winter Programs	
KAPRB Jr. Basketball	This fun and competitive basketball program is for boys and girls in grades 3-8. Play begins in December and ends in March. Practices and games are held at local schools with games on Saturdays.
Spring Programs	
KAPRB Blue Demons Girls Lacrosse	Our Spring Girls Lacrosse program is for girls in grades 1-6. Teams practice twice a week with weekly games. The program runs from March - May.
Kennett-Unionville Boys Lacrosse	Our Spring Boys Lacrosse program is for boys 5-14 years of age. Teams practice twice a week with weekly games. The program runs from March - May.
KAPRB Spring High School Basketball	This league is for boys in grades 9-12. Fun and competitive games will be played at local schools. The season runs from March - May.
KAPRB Co-Ed Softball	This league is for men and women who are 18 years of age or older. The league is played at Pennock Park on Monday - Thursday. The program runs from April - August.
Summer Programs	
KAPRB Summer Adventure Camp	KAPRB Summer Adventure Camp provides 3-4 field trips each week to fun and educational locations. Children enjoy arts and crafts, science projects, cooking, visits from local first responders and non-profits, and learn various sports. The program runs for 8 weeks.
Summer Clinics	KAPRB offers sports clinics designed to provide fundamental instruction for the new player and some intermediate and advanced skill development for the more experienced player. Clinics include boys and girls lacrosse, field hockey, basketball, and volleyball. The program is once a week for 8 weeks.

Herb Pennock Park
650 W. South Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
www.kaprb.org

Rep. Steve Barrar will host a FREE
VETERANS APPRECIATION
★ *Breakfast* ★

In partnership with Sen. Tom Killion

Special Guest:

Brigadier General Mike Regan, Deputy Adjutant General-Air Force



Saturday, Nov. 2
Elam United Methodist Church
1073 Smithbridge Road, Glen Mills



To accommodate as many veterans as possible, we are offering three separate seatings at 8:30, 9:30 and 10:30 a.m. If you are a veteran, please contact my district office at 610-358-5925 to reserve your spot at the seating of your choice.

This event is open to all U.S. Military veterans and their spouses.

REP. STEVE BARRAR

1 Beaver Valley Road, Chadds Ford, PA 19317

SteveBarrar.com

Facebook.com/RepBarrar





TOWNSHIPS TODAY

A NEWSLETTER BROUGHT
TO YOU BY YOUR TOWNSHIP

Second Quarter 2019

Ambulance Companies Facing Crisis of Their Own

Volunteer fire companies are on the verge of extinction, and now Pennsylvania is facing another public safety crisis.

This one involves emergency medical service agencies, whose numbers have shrunk dramatically from 2,000 in the late '80s and early '90s to between 900 and 1,000 today.

As volunteers dwindle, paid personnel become harder to come by, and insurance reimbursements only partially cover expenses, the EMS crisis has reached a tipping point in many communities.

"The reality is that ambulance services are experiencing a severe financial crisis," says Stephen Bobella Jr., the executive director of both the Northern Berks EMS and the Elverson-Honey Brook Area EMS, which serve municipalities in Berks, Chester, and Lancaster counties.

A manpower shortage

Circumstances, however, have not always been so dire.

For decades, ambulance services thrived. Buoyed by low operating expenses and more than equitable reimbursements from patients' insurance companies, many organizations had built a nest egg of savings.

"We had in the ballpark of a million dollars



For decades, ambulance services thrived in Pennsylvania. However, as volunteers dwindle, paid personnel become harder to come by, and insurance reimbursements only partially cover expenses, the EMS crisis is reaching a tipping point in many communities.

socked away at one time," David Braucht, president of the Penns Valley EMS Board of Directors in Centre County, says.

He calls it the "golden age of reimbursement," when insurance checks covered expenses.

"When EMS started, it was about neighbors

helping neighbors," Scott Rhoat, chief of Bellefonte EMS and the president of the Centre County Ambulance Association, says. "It's almost impossible today for volunteers only to run an EMS system."

Following passage of Pennsylvania's first EMS law in 1985, emergency services became more regulated, and many agencies started the shift from volunteer to paid personnel who could better provide round-the-clock EMS coverage. Around this time, agencies also began to separate from their volunteer fire companies to become independent organizations.

"Many years ago, we were viewed as strictly a transport service," Bobella says. "Today, we are a health care provider."

With well-equipped ambulances and highly trained staff, today's EMS providers take the emergency room out to the community and into living rooms. However, better care brings higher expenses, and the consequences of this shift in services — from volunteer to paid staff, from transport only to advanced health care — have taken a financial toll on EMS operations.

For starters, the equipment needed to deliver basic and advanced life support is expensive. Paying for a career staff also greatly increases EMS budgets. Salaries, however, for first responders remain low, making it difficult to attract candidates to the job.

The increased level of training requirements can be a deterrent, too. To become an EMT takes 200 hours and costs upwards of \$1,000. The training for a paramedic is even more intense, requiring a multi-year and multi-thousand-dollar investment in time and money.

"When an EMT starts at \$9.50 an hour and is making maybe \$18,000 a year, it's hard to convince people to go into this career," Rhoat says.

In rural areas, where the population pool is smaller, paramedics and EMTs are even harder to find, yet these units' life-saving services are especially essential in a region where trauma and critical-care centers are hours away.

Not keeping pace

Saving lives is the goal of EMS providers so when a 9-1-1 call comes in, they respond first and deal with money issues later.

"EMS is the best example of socialized medicine, where we are required to respond and transport and can't refuse service," Rhoat says, "and those who can pay make up for those who can't."

While the scope of emergency medical services has evolved over time, the system

that finances it has been slow to change. In a recent victory, however, the state increased the reimbursement of ambulance transportation for Medicaid patients for the first time in 14 years.

In January, the Medicaid reimbursement rose from \$120 to \$180 per loaded trip for basic life support transport and from \$200 to \$300 per loaded trip for advanced life support. The act also allows for a \$2 charge per mile for loaded trips in excess of 20 miles.

A 2018 law made another important change by requiring health insurance plans to pay all reasonably necessary costs associated with ambulance services, even if the victim is not transported. Previously, insurance carriers could refuse to reimburse an ambulance company that provided medical service to a patient but didn't transport the person to the hospital.

Private insurance has also become problematic for ambulance companies since the Affordable Care Act, which ushered in high-deductible, high-copay insurance plans. These make it more challenging for EMS companies to collect from patients, particularly if the EMS is an out-of-network provider.

In these cases, the insurance company will send the reimbursement check to the insured individual, who should then turn it over to the ambulance company. Unfortunately, some individuals simply cash these checks and rebuff ambulance companies attempts to recoup reimbursement, which only exacerbates the problem.

Seeking solutions

With reimbursements below cost for all payers, agencies must raise the remaining funds through municipal contributions, membership programs, donations, fundraisers, and grants.

And there's another challenge: EMS has been self-sufficient for so long that communities simply take their emergency services for granted. "For 30 years, EMS had been delivered to the valley for nothing," Braucht of Penns Valley says.

Those days are over, EMS officials say, and solutions must come soon through community involvement, local government support, and legislative action.

Chuck Cressley of Jefferson County EMS understands how the challenges facing EMS right now can feel overwhelming.

"We're not giving up," he says. "If we don't work through this, then essentially, we would have to go back to a time when the local funeral director provided emergency transport in a community, and that is untenable."

"When an EMT starts at \$9.50 an hour and is making maybe \$18,000 a year, it's hard to convince people to go into this career."

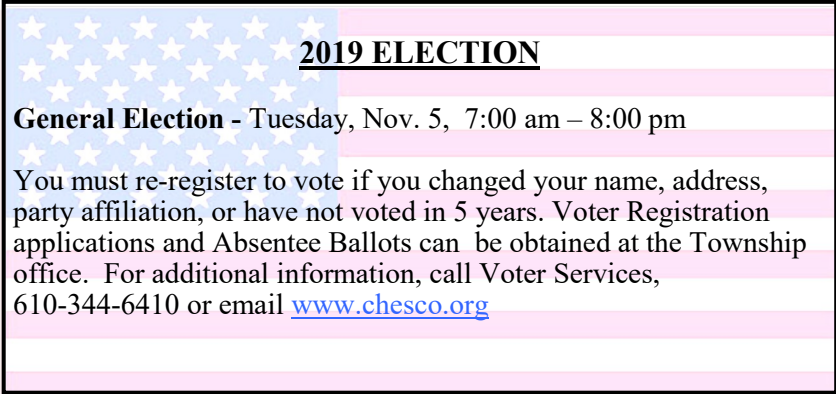
Know Your Polling Location

Precinct 1 Kennett Township Building

Precinct 2 Church of the Advent

Precinct 3 Kendal at Longwood Auditorium

Precinct 4 Greenwood Elementary School



2019 ELECTION

General Election - Tuesday, Nov. 5, 7:00 am – 8:00 pm

You must re-register to vote if you changed your name, address, party affiliation, or have not voted in 5 years. Voter Registration applications and Absentee Ballots can be obtained at the Township office. For additional information, call Voter Services, 610-344-6410 or email www.chesco.org

Fall/Winter Activities

NOVEMBER

- 5 General Elections - Office Closed
- 6 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 6 Planning Comm. Work Session(6:30 pm)
- 6 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 11 Holiday - Office Closed
- 12 Planning Commission
- 13 Safety Committee
- 19 KA Park Authority
- 20 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 21 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 26 EAC
- 26 Historical Commission
- 28/29 Holiday - Office Closed

DECEMBER

- 3 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 3 Planning Comm. Work Session (6:30 pm)
- 4 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 10 Planning Commission
- 11 Safety Commission
- 17 KA Park Authority
- 18 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 19 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 24 Holiday - Office Closed
- 25 Holiday - Office Closed
- 31 Holiday - Office Closed

JANUARY

- 1 Holiday - Office Closed
- 6 Organizational Meeting
- 7 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 7 Planning Comm. Work Session (6:30 pm)
- 8 Safety Committee
- 14 Planning Commission
- 15 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 16 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 20 Holiday - Office Closed
- 21 KA Park Authority
- 28 EAC
- 28 Historical Commission

FEBRUARY

- 4 Planning Comm. Work Session(6:30pm)
- 4 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 5 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 11 Planning Commission
- 12 Safety Committee
- 17 Holiday - Office Closed
- 18 KA Park Authority
- 19 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 20 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 25 EAC
- 25 Historical Commission

MARCH

- 3 Planning Comm. Work Session(6:30 pm)
- 3 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 4 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 10 Planning Commission
- 11 Safety Committee
- 17 KA Park Authority
- 18 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 19 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 24 EAC
- 24 Historical Commission

APRIL

- 1 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 7 Planning Comm. Work Session(6:30 pm)
- 7 Trails & Sidwalks Committee
- 10 Holiday - Office Closed
- 14 Planning Commission
- 15 Safety Committee
- 15 BOS Public Meeting (7 pm)
- 16 Land Conservation Advisory Committee
- 21 KA Park Authority
- 28 EAC
- 28 Historical Commission