



FALL 2020

THORNBURY TOWNSHIP

DELAWARE COUNTY INCORPORATED 1687



New Rain Garden in Thornbury Park

Thornbury Township was awarded a grant which will enable the township to construct a Rain Garden in Thornbury Park. The \$75,864.00 grant was provided through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Rain Gardens are one of the Best Management Practices (BMP) currently employed in the area of storm water management. The garden will replace the dated storm water basin (near the tennis courts and pavilion) which was first developed.

The new garden will feature amended soils and a range of wetland plantings that will attract wildlife while improving the process of ground water recharge.



The Rain Garden was designed by Catania Engineers and will be installed by All Seasons Inc. All Seasons was the lowest bidder in the public bidding process. All Seasons' owner, Steve Ganz, is a township resident. The project is scheduled to be completed this fall. *TT*



Township Manager Letter

Hello fellow residents. Life in our little hamlet has certainly taken on a different path since March 2020. While our Township building has continued to be closed to the public, our staff has worked hard to keep all of our services on track. We have been forced to postpone or cancel a number of our annual events. We hope to modify some events in the fall so we can provide a better sense of normality to our otherwise quarantined existence.

The Historical Commission approached the Board of Supervisors and asked the Board to consider adding names of township residents who served in World War II to the monument in Thornbury Park. The World War II Monument is currently located in Thornbury Park but was originally erected at the intersection of Glen Mills Road and Cheyney Road in 1947. The Monument displays the names of over 80 men and women who were residents of the township at the time of their service in World War II. Thornbury Township would now like to

acknowledge long-time residents who served our country but were not residents at the time of their service. We intend to do this by adding those names to the monument. Joseph S. Simboli, Harry Collier, Everett Swanson, Willard (Will) Rafetto, Jr. John D. Birkhimer, Walter C. Staton, and Frederick P. Glazier are all on the list to be added. We are planning to have the names of these brave soldiers engraved on the monument and celebrate this addition on Veterans Day which is November 11, 2020.

We are also working to attain the names of other residents who served during World War II. If you know of any other residents that we should include, please provide us with their names and contact information and we will follow up with them. We are forever indebted to Joe and his fellow soldiers who have defended our freedom. Thank you and be safe. *TJ*

Jeff Seagraves,
TOWNSHIP MANAGER

A NIGHT OUT AT A SAFE DISTANCE



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020
Hotel Transylvania Drive-In Movie
Where Field adjacent
to Thornbury Park
When 7:15pm

After months of not being able to hold a township event due to the Corona Virus restrictions, Thornbury Township hosted its first ever drive-in movie on Thursday July 30th. It was a beautiful night and the movie was free to anyone who attended. The always welcomed and ever popular Mr. Softee ice cream truck was there as well. The movie *Peanut Butter Falcon* was shown on a large screen in the field above the lot where the Farmer's Market is held on Glen Mills Road. We just held our second drive-in on Friday September 25th

and showed the movie *Princess Bride*. That movie was followed by an amazing fireworks display. There are discussions of doing this again in the future as well as other COVID-safe events. If you have any ideas for events that we can host and still socially distance ourselves please contact susan@thornbury.org. In the meantime, stay safe, keep your social distance and wear your masks, not just for yourself but for the safety and consideration of others. *TJ*

ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

Thornbury Township lost hundreds of trees when the 2019 tornado made a precision cut through our neighborhoods. PECO provided a generous grant to our Township, and when approached by the Board of Supervisors about putting it to use, the EAC voted to assist residents with the purchase of new trees. The "Tree for a Ten" was conceived as a way to subsidize residential replacement. Native trees were selected by the EAC and offered to residents for a purchase price of \$10. The program was an immediate sell-out and 200 trees will be arriving in October for distribution. If you missed the first offer, stay tuned for another opportunity to purchase a tree in the spring! Welcome Nathan Meyer! The passing of beloved volunteer Larry Barrett left big shoes to fill. As destiny would have it, Larry's home was sold to someone who would do exactly that. "To be able to protect and grow the beauty of an area is something that I have always felt important wherever I lived. When I heard about Larry's contribution to the township, I knew I needed to continue his legacy," says Nathan. As a new Thornbury resident, Nathan has grown to love our local parks and promises to keep them flourishing for years to come. Larry is proud to be our newest member, and we couldn't be happier to have someone with such a strong level of commitment to the environment and the community. Our trails are generally clean despite heavier than normal use. With monthly clean-ups suspended, we all need to do our part and maybe just a little bit more. Dog owners, please take your doggie bags home to dispose of. We love sharing the trails with your four-legged friends, but not those little land mines left on the trail!



Board Chairman Letter

RECENT BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTIONS

May 6, 2020

- The transfer of \$340,000.00 from the Open Space Fund to the General Fund for payment on the purchase of properties located at 140-142 Glen Mills Road, was approved.

June 3, 2020

- The 2020 Memorial Day Donation to the Delaware County Veterans Museum in the amount of \$500.00, was approved.
- The Extension on the Lawlor Subdivision from June 6, to September 4, 2020, was approved.

June 17, 2020

- Waiving the Historic Resource Impact Studies for HRP #180 at 565 Cheyney Road, and HRP #126 at 325 Thornton Road, was approved.
- The Board then awarded a check for \$1,000.00 to Leigh Mahoney as the 2020 Thornbury Township Scholarship recipient, and a check for \$250.00 to Nathan Podgurski, as this year's Junior Supervisor.

July 15, 2020

- Authorizing the EAC to advertise the specified list of trees available to Thornbury Township residents, as a part of their tree replacement program, was approved.
- The hiring of part-time summer staff for the Thornbury Township Virtual Summer Camp, Amelia Sontag as Director, Maggie Siegert and Jeremiah Daudert as Counselors, along with Chris and Cindy McCord, all being paid the base rate of \$50.00 per session, was approved.

Continued on page 4



There are so many firsts that are celebrated in life. First day of school, first girlfriend, first time you drove a car, or bought a car, first day at a new

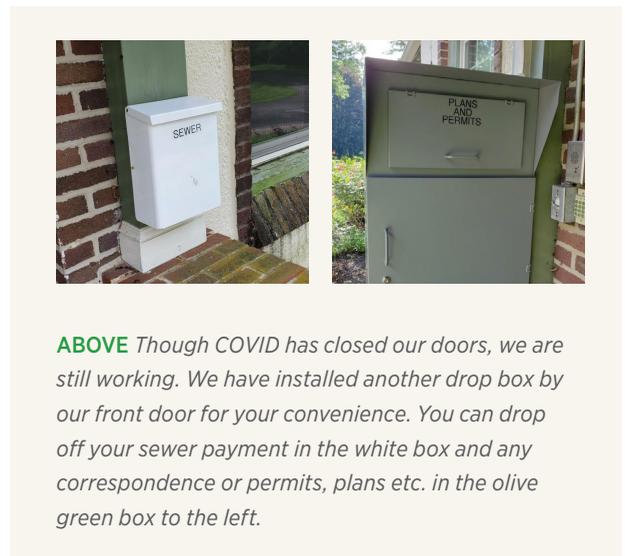
job, first credit card, first house. Your first wedding anniversary. Moms, think of the first time you heard your baby's heartbeat. Moms and Dads think about your baby's first precious moments of life and then the following year chuck full of firsts. The first time they cooed, or waved, discovered their feet. The first bottle or solid food, the first step was huge. Heck some of us have 'oohed and aahed' at our child's first burp. Maybe some of you have shed bitter sweet tears as your child has left home for the first time. And then your children go through a lot of the same 'firsts' that you did....and life continues.

The first of anything can be both exciting and frightening. But don't you remember how exciting it was to actually do something or accomplish something for the first time? Well, this is the first time we have ever experienced a pandemic.

Most of us have never home schooled our children or facilitated a virtual learning experience for them. We haven't had so many people working from home before. We are all prolific in Zoom meetings these days. A year ago, most of us didn't know what Zoom was.

Our boards and commissions and even our office staff meet regularly via zoom. We have the technology and capability for our staff to work from home and continue to be safe.

So rather than hold on to our trepidations to our new way of life, let's celebrate all of the firsts that we got through. Recognize the skills that you have recently, and probably rapidly, developed. Think of others and share the joy. Congratulate them as they too are conquering challenges and uncharted territory.



ABOVE Though COVID has closed our doors, we are still working. We have installed another drop box by our front door for your convenience. You can drop off your sewer payment in the white box and any correspondence or permits, plans etc. in the olive green box to the left.

JP, Sheri and I all look forward to the end of the pandemic and seeing you all around town again, hopefully very soon. In the mean-time please wear your masks and practice social distancing. Keep your families healthy and celebrate. Life may be different, but it will continue. You are doing great!

Jim Raith, Chairman
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Concordville Fire Company

What is an ambulance membership or ambulance subscription?

An ambulance membership is a fund drive program where community residents donate at least \$55 to the Concordville Fire & Protective Association Ambulance. In return members receive consideration for out-of-pocket expenses for our emergency ambulance services.

What benefit does the resident receive?

The Concordville Fire Company Ambulance division will accept insurance payments as payment in full for any emergency ambulance calls we provide to members and their households. This saves the member co-pays, deductibles and unpaid balance amounts that insurance does not cover. We can only waive charges originating from the Concordville Fire Company Ambulance.

How much will that save me?

That depends on your insurance coverage. Many residents who need ambulance service save hundreds of dollars. An Advanced Life Support Ambulance Transport typically cost about \$1,100 or more.

How does the Fire Company benefit?

The Concordville Fire Co. Ambulance Division uses this fund drive money to purchase ambulances, state of art medical equipment, and training.

Don't my taxes pay for Fire and Ambulance Service?

The Concordville Fire & Protective

Association, a primarily volunteer organization, provides Fire and Emergency Ambulance Service to our community saving residents from an enormous tax burden that full-time career emergency services would cost. We receive only modest donations from the townships we cover, and that money is primarily for fire protection.



I doubt I will need an ambulance anytime soon, why should I belong?

Well, most emergencies are just that, unexpected and unanticipated. Your support of the Concordville Ambulance

also provides funding so that state of the art Emergency Medical Care is there whenever you need it, 24 hours a day and 365 days a year.

I donate to the Fire Company; do I have to donate to the ambulance also?

The Concordville Fire & Protective Association has two separate fund drives. In the fall of each year, we solicit for the Fire Apparatus, building, and equipment. In the spring, we solicit for the ambulance fund drive. This money is completely separate and is used to provide the most up-to-date ambulances, EMS equipment, and training.

Please return your donation soon!

The Concordville Fire & Protective Association is a 501(C) 3 Organization so all donations are fully tax deductible. If you did not receive our Fund Drive solicitation, and would like to, please contact our business office at 610-459-4749. *TJ*

SUPERVISORS ACTIONS

(Continued from Page 3)

August 19, 2020

- The Declaration of Weather Disaster Emergency executed August 8, 2020 as a result of the Township wide damage caused by Hurricane Isaias August 3 & 4, 2020 was approved.
- Emergency Road Repair Contract with A.F. Damon, Inc., for the roadway at Old Gradyville Road between the intersections of Creek Road and Slitting Mill Road, as recommended by the Township Engineer and pursuant to the "Declaration of Emergency" was approved.
- Hiring Suzanne Howat as a full-time Township employee effective August 1, 2020, was approved.



ABOVE: *Martin Park access has been restored. Steve Botella Construction just completed the job and just in time for the Annual Fish Derby.*



Park and Recreation Updates

ABOUT OUR PARKS: LOCATIONS AND FEATURES

Thornbury Township boasts five public parks. We invite you to enjoy!

BARRETT'S MEADOW

30 acres at Creek & Tanguy Roads



Walk the trail and enjoy the naturally occurring wild flowers in the spring and summer.

BONNER PARK

65 acres on Blossom Hill Road



Visit the historic Frazer Ruins and an old, unused quarry. Enjoy plenty of good hiking.

MARTIN PARK

45 acres on Stony Bank Road



Home to our Annual Fishing Derby. Enjoy plenty of walking, picnicking, and fishing.

PALMER ARBORETUM

21 acres on Brinton Lake Road



Climb the giant adirondack chairs, play hopscotch and bocce ball and walk the trails.

THORNBURY PARK

56 acres at Glen Mills & Thornton Roads



Home to many of our Township events. Enjoy scenic walking and running paths, basketball and tennis courts, playground equipment, the pavilion, and much more.

PARK IMPROVEMENTS

One of the silver linings of COVID-19 is having the opportunity to get a few chores done. The tennis courts at Thornbury Park were just resurfaced and look beautiful. We also added Pickle Ball court lines at the request of a few residents. There is currently only one net up as we are always looking for ways to encourage social distancing.



You may notice too that there is a new bench by the tennis courts. This sturdy structure provides a comfortable place to enjoy while waiting for the courts. The bench was an Eagle Scout Project built by resident, Shane Citrenbaum of Troop 66. We are so grateful for this addition to the many features of Thornbury Park. Thanks Shane.

The Public Works department also had the chance to clear out the trees that came down in several severe storms and blocked the trails in Thornbury Park. The trail throughout the woods was another Eagle Scout project brought to us by resident, Josh Howat in 2018. It provides a shady reprieve for the many walkers and joggers and has been well used.

ENGRAVED BRICKS AVAILABLE

The engraved Bricks in the Historical timeline at Thornbury Park are a beautiful way to put your 'signature' at the park. They make a great gift whether it be a new neighbor or someone that has lived here for years. It's also a special way to memorialize a loved one. The bricks are ordered through the Thornbury Historical Society and installed by the Public Works Department.



PARK AND REC COVID19 SAFE ACTIVITIES

These two are gill-ty of having a great time at the Annual Fish Derby on Saturday 10/10/20.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020 Pumpkin Pick Up

Register for pickup at www.thornbury.org. Compete in our competition by sending in pictures of your carved pumpkins and win a prize! Must be a resident.

When Thornbury Park, 1:00-3:00pm



Historical Commission Letter

“When the well is dry, we will know the worth of water” – Ben Franklin

Preservation through Education... Coming to a Roadside Near You

The Brandywine Battlefield Task Force, which we have written about before,



exists to provide a detailed history of the September 11, 1777 British and American

troop movements in our surrounding municipalities. This historic education helps to refresh people’s minds and preserve the significance of that day.

Several years ago, the Pennsylvania Society of Sons of the Revolution and its Color Guard offered to work in partnership with the Task Force’s 15 municipalities’ historical commissions, to fund an official Brandywine Task Force Historic Marker for each of our communities. These markers will form the backbone of the Brandywine battlefield self-guided tour currently being developed.

Each municipal specific marker will be located by the side of the road, adjacent to a safe pull off area. When complete, the self-guided tour should be fascinating for those interested in the history and battle movements of that day.



The markers will be the same size, shape and color as the already in place Brandywine historic markers you know well. The significant difference is that each municipalities’ logo will be at the top, making these markers stand out from the rest. Below is the text of our currently, in production, marker. We will let you know when it is in place.

An Exhausted Retreat

On the evening of September 11, 1777, from approximately 6-8pm, this small crossroads village of Thorntonville (Thornton) witnessed a component of the American Strategic Retreat ordered by General George Washington from the Battle of Brandywine.

*After a long day of battle and successful rearguard defense by General Nathaniel Greene, thousands of exhausted American troops and camp followers from General Sullivan’s, Stephen’s, and Stirling’s divisions retreated east along Dilworthtown Road from Birmingham Road, then turned south on Thornton Road, to eventually regroup in Chester. **T***

PLANNING COMMISSION

All residents are invited to attend virtual meetings held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.

191 Creek Rd. (a.k.a. Fichter-Jamali) Land Conveyance Plan

The sketch plan for a lot-line swap was first discussed at the February meeting consisting of a 10 foot even swap with their neighbors for a pathway for their horses to get to their rear property without crossing a neighbor’s driveway. A possible easement and ordinance requirements were discussed. The discussion continued in May, at which time the Planning Commission recommended this plan for approval, conditioned upon the following: (a) The compliance with Mr. Ciocco’s review letter dated May 12, 2020, (b) The addition of a utility easement for telephone poles and related utility lines that extend from the 195 Creek Road property to the east across the 191 Creek Road property; (c) The addition of a utility easement for telephone poles and related utility lines that extend along the 191 Creek Road Eastern property line and out to Creek Road; (d) The clarification and/or correction of the proposed well location on the plan. As part of the motion, the Planning Commission also recommended six waivers.

15 Tanguy Rd. (a.k.a. O’Kane) Land Development Sketch Plan

At the July meeting the applicant’s engineer proposed tearing down the existing house and constructing a new house, driveway, and pole barn. Tree replacement requirements, pole barn size and accessibility, setbacks, and stormwater were discussed. The discussion will continue upon receipt of preliminary or final plans.



WCASD: Re-Opening Schools

9/29/20: THE SCHOOL BOARD VOTED TO RE-OPEN SCHOOLS

DO'S AND DON'TS OF LEARNING AT HOME

By Mary Jane Bogle

❌ **RULE #1: Don't stress out.** No one learns well under stress, and kids pick up on your mood more quickly than you think. If you and your students are getting frustrated, walk away for a few minutes. In fact, the break in brainpower might just give you the breakthrough you need.

✅ **RULE #2: Take breaks!** In addition to "brain breaks," work some planned downtime into your day. A quick nature hike or walk around the block can clear the mind and help your students concentrate better when they return.

✅ **RULE #3: Read aloud.** Choose a book a few steps beyond your student's current reading level. Even 30 minutes a day can reap huge dividends in increased vocabulary, comprehension and syntax, as well as empathy and imagination. Or pick an audio book and listen over lunch.

❌ **RULE #4: Don't focus on checklists.** It's easy to get caught up in the mode where our sense of accomplishment is tied to the number of tasks we've completed. But making time for right brain activities (art, music, creative writing, puzzles,) will help your children become more holistic thinkers, improve spatial abilities and boost mental speed.

❌ **RULE #5: Don't forget to have fun.** One of my home-schooling goals was that my children would become lifelong learners. They won't value an education if it isn't enjoyable, so take time to find out what piques their interest and pursue activities tied to their individual passions. Many companies are offering free online learning through the next few months, so you're bound to find educational experiences unique to each kid.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

Parents will be expected to take their child's temperature and complete the self-monitoring questions daily. Staff will also be expected to take their own temperature each morning and complete the self-monitoring questions, prior to arriving at school. Parents and staff are responsible for monitoring for signs of illness and staying home, or keeping children home when they are sick. If someone has an elevated temperature, at school, that person will be taken to the nurse for further evaluation.

Each classroom will be equipped with disinfectant wipes, sanitizers, masks and gloves. Outdoor space will be utilized on a limited basis and social distancing along with masks will be utilized. Visitors will only be permitted by appointment and have administrative approval to be in the building after it has been determined that the visit can only take place in person.

There will be hand sanitizer on the bus and the bus will be cleaned between runs. Students will sit no more than two to a seat. Training will be provided for all staff on the health and safety procedures outlined in the plan.

Middle and High School Classrooms will be set up to allow a minimum of six feet between each student and the desks will all be facing the same direction.

There will be a maximum of 25 students in a classroom, unless a larger space is used to accommodate the distancing requirements for additional desks. Students will be required to wear masks or face shields when changing classrooms. Staff will be required to wear masks or face shields. Not just when changing classes. Staff are required to wear masks or face shields at all times with the exception of working in their rooms or eating lunch. Meals will be provided by using an alternate lunch schedule to achieve social distancing requirements of at least six feet.



Elementary students will remain in the same classroom for most of the day with the exception of lunch, recess, and physical education. Elementary students will wear masks. During instruction and while eating lunch, six feet distance will be

maintained at all times. If students don't have masks, one will be provided and they will be taught how to wear the masks (how to put it on, take it off and maintain it). Students will be taught how to wash their hands properly and how to use the hand sanitizer.

Meals will be provided in the cafeteria. When entering and exiting the building, staff and students will maintain at least six feet of distance from the next person. Staff will eat lunch in a room such as the library to ensure that social distancing can be implemented. *T*

STAFF & OFFICIALS

Township Manager

Jeffrey T. Seagraves: 610.399.8383 x104

Municipal Secretary

Geoff Carbutt: 610.399.8383 x107

Township Events

Susan Daudert: 610.399.8383 x101

Public Works

Art Risley: 610.399.8383 x106

Code Enforcement Officer

Keystone Municipal Services

WC Area School District:

484.266.1000

State Senator (9th District)

Tom Killion: 610.436.3320

U.S. Representative (5th District):

Mary Kay Scanlon: 610.626.1913

State Representative (168th District):

Chris Quinn, 610.325.1541

U.S. Senators

Pat Toomey: 202.224.4254

Bob Casey, Jr.: 202.224.6324

District Justice

Honorable Wendy B. Roberts Esquire

District Court 32-2-49: 610.558.3605



Thornbury Township
6 Township Drive
Cheyney, PA 19319

Presorted Standard
US Postage
PAID
West Chester, PA
Permit No. 215

BOARD MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors

1st & 3rd Wednesdays: 7:00pm

James Raith, Chairman

James Kelly, Vice Chairman

Sheri Perkins, Supervisor

Zoning Hearing Board

1st Monday (if needed): 7:00pm

Environmental Advisory Council

3rd Thursday: 7:00pm

Park & Recreation Board

2nd Thursday: 7:00pm

Historical Commission

3rd Tuesday: 7:00pm

Planning Commission

2nd Wednesday: 7:00pm

Sewer Committee

4th Thursday: 7:00pm

CONTACT

6 Township Drive
Cheyney, PA 19319

TEL 610.399.8383

FAX 610-399-3162

www.thornbury.org

Monday through Friday:

8:30am-4:30pm

Township Calendar

NOVEMBER 2020

ELECTION DAY 11 3 20	Park & Recreation Board Mtg 11 12 20	EAC Mtg 11 19 20
Board of Supervisors Mtg 11 4 20	Historical Commission 11 17 20	THANKSGIVING Township Offices Closed... 11 26 20
Planning Commission Mtg 11 11 20	Board of Supervisors Mtg 11 18 20	THANKSGIVING Township Offices Closed... 11 27 20
	Sewer Advisory Commission Mtg 11 19 20	

DECEMBER 2020

Board of Supervisors Mtg 12 2 20	Historical Commission Mtg 12 15 20	CHRISTMAS Township Offices Closed 12 24 20
Planning Commission Mtg 12 9 20	Board of Supervisors Mtg 12 16 20	CHRISTMAS Township Offices Closed 12 25 20
	EAC Mtg 12 17 20	

RACHEL KOHL LIBRARY UPDATE: The Library Director and Board of Trustees have reopened the interior of the library in a limited capacity for Grab & Go service. Curbside service will continue and curbside hours, Mon.-Thurs. (10am-6pm) and Fri. & Sat. (10am-2pm), will remain the same. Grab & Go will be available Monday through Thursday. 11am-1pm is reserved for adults with up to four adults permitted entrance at a time. 3-5pm will be available for families with only one family allowed in the library at a time. Children under six discouraged. No appointment is needed for Grab & Go. You will be allowed 15 minutes to browse and checkout your materials. The front door of the library will remain locked. When you arrive, call us and let us know you're here. We will let you in and provide you with a mask and gloves if you don't have them. You may have to wait if a 15 minute browsing session is already in progress or a line has formed. While waiting we ask that you maintain social distancing of at least 6 ft. Masks and/or shields as well as gloves will be required. All returns should continue to be placed in our outside return bins. Please contact the library director at 610-358-3445 ext. 102 or rkdirector@delcolibraries.org with questions.