

# THE Milemarker

EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

## COVID-19 UPDATE

### TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

In an effort to minimize public exposure to COVID-19, and maintain social distancing, Township meetings will be conducted via webinar until further notice. No attendance in-person will be allowed. Members of the public may join online using an internet-enabled device. Links and passwords are available at [HTTPS://WWW.EBRANDYWINE.ORG/CIVICALERTS.ASPX?AID=162](https://www.ebrandywine.org/civicalerts.aspx?aid=162).

Members of the public may also join any of the meetings via phone at **(800) 366-4068**. Use the PIN codes listed at the website when prompted. Members of the public participating by phone will have no mechanism to be recognized by the Chairman to provide public comment. Those joining by internet-enabled device will be able to request an opportunity to speak. If you require special accommodation, please call the Township office at **(610) 269-8230**.

### PARKS & RECREATION

ALL EVENTS HAVE BEEN  
CANCELLED FOR 2020

For the latest info on the COVID-19 news and regulations in Pennsylvania and Chester County, go to [EBRANDYWINE.ORG](http://EBRANDYWINE.ORG).

## What's Going on at Locust Knoll Farm?

Vision of restoration of historic property



Photos: E. Brandywine Historic Resources.

**I**F YOU ARE a frequent driver along Route 322 east of Corner Ketch and Osborne Roads, you may have noticed the activity going on in and around the property most often referenced as Locust Knoll Farm. The barn, home, and outbuildings sit on the south side of Horseshoe Pike across from the East Brandywine Baptist Church.

### THE PAST

The formidable stone home that is currently being repointed and reroofed was originally built in 1811 by William McFarlan. In 1812 it was licensed as the Green Tree Tavern and became a frequented traveler stop along Horseshoe Pike.

The home changed hands several times throughout the 1800's. In 1909 William T. Arters purchased the property and operated Green Tree Dairy on the 144-acre farm until the original barn was consumed by fire in 1916. Dairy farming resumed in 1936 with change of ownership to the Manley's. They renamed the property Locust Knoll Farm because of all the locust trees on the property.

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## Directory

### TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman . . . . . Kyle P. Scribner  
 Vice Chairman . . . . . Jason Winters  
 Member . . . . . George Scherbak

### TOWNSHIP PUBLIC MEETINGS (Held at Township Building)

Board of Supervisors . . . . . 3rd THU, 6:30 pm  
 Bondsville Mill Comm . . . . . 4th THU, 8:00 am  
 Historical Commission . . . . . 2nd WED, 7:00 pm  
 Municipal Authority . . . . . 2nd TUE, 8:00 am  
 and if needed, LAST FRI, 8:00 am  
 Open Space Committee . . . . . 1st THU, 7:30 pm  
 Ordinance Task Force . . . . . 3rd WED, 7:30 pm  
 Park and Rec Board . . . . . 1st MON, 7:00 pm  
 Planning Commission . . . . . 1st WED, 7:30 pm  
 Trails Committee . . . . . 2nd TUE, 7:00 pm  
 Zoning Hearing Board . . . . . 1st TUE, 7:30 pm  
 (as needed)

### FIRE/AMBULANCE/POLICE

Fire, Ambulance, Police (emergency) . . . . . 911  
 Police (non-emerg) . . . . . (610) 383-7000  
 Police Admin . . . . . (610) 269-4300  
 Police Website . . . . . www.ebtpd.org

### RECREATION

EBYA . . . . . www.ebya.org  
 DARC . . . . . www.darcinfo.com  
 Park & Rec . . . . . parkandrec@ebrandywine.org

### TOWNSHIP STAFF DIRECTORY (610) 269-8230 | M-F | 9 am-noon & 1-5 pm

x200 Norann King, Building Department  
 x218 Lisa Taraschi, Administrative Assistant  
 x203 Scott Piersol, Township Manager  
 x204 Matthew VanLew, Roadmaster  
 x205 Luke Reven, Assistant Township Mgr.  
 x210 Dennis Mulhern, Tax Collector  
 x100 Police Administration

### TAX INFORMATION

County Taxes . . . . . (610) 344-6361  
 Tax Claim Office . . . . . (610) 344-6360  
 Assessment Office . . . . . (610) 344-6105  
 EIT and LST . . . . . (610) 269-4402  
 School Taxes . . . . . 1 (866) 300-1714

## Spotted Lanternfly Traps

New, more effective trap



Circle trap secured to a tree. Photo: Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State.



Installing circle traps in Bondsville Mill Park.

**THE SPOTTED LANTERNFLY (SLF)** is an invasive insect that feeds on grapevines and trees. SLFs are abundant in Chester County and are destroying our trees and crops. While the season is ending, we share this information for residents to be prepared for next year's round of nymphs.

The traps that were initially used to capture the nymphs were sticky bands wrapped around trees. Unfortunately, it also caught birds and other creatures.

There is, however, a new style of trap. This trap is made of plastic-coated insect screening and does not use any sticky material at all. It is basically a tunnel that SLFs walk into. When they move upward in the trap, they end up in a dead-end collection container where they die.

The traps can be made with common household items as described at this Penn State Extension link: [HTTPS://EXTENSION.PSU.EDU/HOW-TO-BUILD-A-NEW-STYLE-SPOTTED-LANTERNFLY-CIRCLE-TRAP](https://extension.psu.edu/how-to-build-a-new-style-spotted-lanternfly-circle-trap).

Building these traps is a good project for anyone who wants to destroy SLFs, save money by using materials they might already have on hand and practice their engineering skills. It could be a good project for families who are at home due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Locust Knoll Farm Restoration

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

In the early 1980's the property was subdivided for the Locust Knoll Development. The remaining 10.5 acres and buildings have changed hands twice in that time—and in 2018 was purchased by David Thal.

### THE PRESENT

Thal, owner and operator for 30 years of The Wood Shop in Malvern, PA, wants to restore this historic property to its original grandeur. Ultimately operations of his custom wood shop business will be in the barn and he will live in the home on the property.

“These first two years have been all about clean up,” shares David. “The grounds have been regraded and cleared. With guidance from a local tree expert, we removed unhealthy trees, replanted others, and will continue to cultivate the trees that remain.”

On the main home structure, he is replacing the roofing and repointing the stone. He is also making mahogany frames for new, true divided light windows to install on the house.

### THE FUTURE

David acknowledges that restoration of the property is a ‘marathon’, especially since he is very hands on with the work. He expects it to be several years before it is all completed. The barn, according to Barn Restoration expert Ephraim Riehl, is not salvageable. The wood will be carefully taken down to be reused, a steel frame installed on the old stone foundation, and a new structure made. The silo will remain. Other structures—a tenant home and garage and a chicken coop—will all be renovated as well.

When Thal bought the property, it came with the sheep you can see grazing in the upper 3 acres. He’s already been offered to sell off that piece to a developer. Thanks, but no thanks, David wants to look out at the fields and sheep—not new homes.

With his interest in historic structures and his wood working expertise, David is very much looking forward to becoming an active and participating member of the East Brandywine Community and restoring this historic property to its original grandeur.



Photos: E. Brandywine Historic Resources.

## ON THE MOVE

RECENTLY SOLD HOMES IN  
EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP

15 Rico Circle .....	\$690,000
16 Gloucester Drive.....	\$435,000
1035 Hopewell Road .....	\$415,000
430 Rock Raymond Road.....	\$301,000
203 Pinebrook Circle.....	\$230,000
32 Emma Court.....	\$685,000
361 Corner Ketch Road.....	\$350,000
576 Prizer Court .....	\$365,000
668 Empire Drive.....	\$525,000
37 Locks Farm Lane.....	\$393,000
13 Quail Hill Lane.....	\$690,000
355 Dawson Place.....	\$365,990
109 Yellowwood Drive.....	\$274,000
110 Cherry Grove Lane .....	\$485,000
215 Seven Springs Lane.....	\$523,850
39 Blakely Road .....	\$483,900
82 Canterbury Ct. ....	\$234,915
215 La Vida Via.....	\$365,000
294 N. Caldwell Circle .....	\$339,900
115 Firethorn Drive.....	\$401,000
213 Seven Springs Lane.....	\$716,000
91 Nichols Mill Road .....	\$1,074,000
40 Corner Ketch Road.....	\$280,000
111 Briarwood Drive .....	\$425,500
860 Little Washington Road.....	\$655,000

Source: ZILLOW.COM

THE  
*Milemarker*

FALL 2020

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## Beaver Creek Dam Rehabilitation Project

Improvements to protect residents & wildlife

**O**N JULY 22, representatives from the Chester County Water Resources Authority (CCWRA) hosted an Open House at the Township Building to present informational displays about the Beaver Creek Flood Control Dam Rehabilitation project and to answer questions of attendees.

Beaver Creek Flood Control Dam, located on Beaver Creek near Guthriesville, is a flood control dam that provides reduction of flood waters for communities located along Beaver Creek, the East Branch Brandywine Creek and the main stem of the Brandywine Creek. The dam was constructed in 1976 as part of the

Brandywine Watershed Work Plan. Beaver Creek Flood Control Dam provides flood protection for:

- Approximately 4,330 residents
- 8 schools with a student population of 3,450
- Approximately 2,500 employees
- 1,770 properties with a combined assessed value of over \$300 million

With technical support and funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), CCWRA is undertaking a rehabilitation project on Beaver Creek Flood Control Dam in order to meet modern dam safety standards. The project started this summer, is expected to be completed



Beaver Creek Dam, Chester County  
Photo: Chesco.org.

in 2022, and will extend the lifespan of the dam for another 50 years.

Following the rehabilitation project, Beaver Creek Flood Control Dam will transition back to a dry dam where the standing sediment pool will be eliminated and replaced with a naturalized stream channel with adjacent wetlands and wildlife habitats. These changes will improve flood control functions and safety, provide additional wildlife habitats, and improve the water quality of Beaver Creek.

Concerns about wildlife were expressed at the meeting, specifically the eagles that have nested on Authority property at the dam. CCWRA has coordinated with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop construction options so as not to disturb the nest, especially if there is a clutch of eggs in Spring 2021 (see story on page 5).

For detailed information about the project, the tentative schedule, and pictures of the displays from the Open House visit: [HTTPS://WWW.CHESCO.ORG/4469/CCWRA---BEAVER-CREEK-DAM-REHABILITATION-](https://www.chesco.org/4469/CCWRA---BEAVER-CREEK-DAM-REHABILITATION-)

### BENEFITS OF THE BEAVER CREEK DAM REHABILITATION PROJECT

<b>Flood Protection</b>	Flood protection will be improved for downstream communities and extended for another 50 years.
<b>Dam Safety</b>	The dam will meet new dam safety standards that have been put in place since the dam was originally constructed.
<b>Water Quality</b>	Removing the sediment pool will improve water quality of Beaver Creek, which is designated by the state as a "cold water fishery".
<b>Public Safety</b>	A public safety hazard will be eliminated by removal of the sediment pool.
<b>Naturalized Wetlands and Wildlife Habitats</b>	Naturalized stream, wetlands and wildlife habitats will be re-established upstream of the dam, in place of the sediment pool.
<b>Maintenance and Worker Safety</b>	Dam maintenance needs will be reduced and safe access of maintenance crews to the riser will be provided.

## Eagles Fledge at Beaver Creek Dam

Nesting activity will influence 2021 dam schedule

**O**VER THE PAST several years, a pair of bald eagles has nested on the Chester County Water Resources Authority property at Beaver Creek Dam. In March of this year, biologists monitoring the dam were pleased to find the eagles had not abandoned their nest. In fact, right before pandemic restrictions set in and monitoring stopped, they spied two eaglets.



*Eagle and eaglet at Beaver Creek Dam. Photo: CCWRA.*

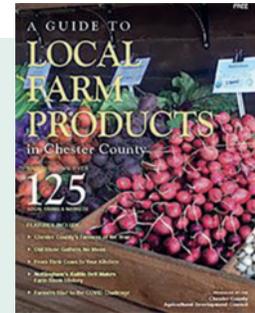
Bald eagles naturally choose to nest in a forested area, close to water. They typically avoid human activity, but it is not unusual for them to nest in an area such as the Beaver Creek Dam. Eagles have strong nest fidelity, meaning they return to the same nest or nesting territory each year.

The Authority has used professional biologists to closely monitor the eagles' nesting activities for three years and have coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to develop two options for the construction schedule of the rehabilitation of the Beaver Creek Dam.

The eagles' nesting activity in 2021 will determine which option is implemented. If the eagles have a successful clutch of eggs, earth moving activities within the vicinity of the nest will likely be delayed until July or August 2021, after any eaglets have fledged, and will be completed in December 2022. This schedule has been designed to avoid disturbance during periods of nest incubation and eaglet fledging. If the eagles do not lay a successful clutch of eggs, earth moving activities may be started earlier, in the spring 2021, and may be completed by December 2021.

During and after construction, the exposed bed of the new sediment pool will develop naturalized stream channels and wetland and terrestrial vegetated habitats that will remain the permanent condition after construction.

Everyone working together will let these eagles know they will still be welcome here in East Brandywine.



### A GUIDE TO LOCALLY GROWN GOODNESS

#### THE CHESTER COUNTY FARM GUIDE

Chester County is rich in locally grown resources for vegetables and fruits. But did you know that milk, cheese, yogurt and honey are made right here too? As is locally raised grass-fed beef, lamb and pork.

The disruptions in the food supply brought on by the pandemic show how important it is for us to know where our food comes from and to support the local farmers and producers of these products.

The Chester County Agricultural Development Council's Annual Chester County Farm Guide is a beautiful, well laid-out resource for learning who these producers and farmers are and where their products are available for purchase.

An easy to read map shows you where you can buy local products at Farmers Markets and retail locations! This will be a Guide you want to keep all year long.

Download a copy of the Chester County Farm Guide at:

[HTTPS://WWW.CHESCO.ORG/DOCUMENTCENTER/VIEW/1350/GUIDE-TO-LOCAL-FARM-PRODUCTS-2020?BIDID=](https://www.chesco.org/documentcenter/view/1350/guide-to-local-farm-products-2020?bidid=)

## Township Parks Provide Refuge in the Pandemic

Community Park and Bondsville Mill Park fun in all seasons

**T**HE COVID-19 PANDEMIC has many East Brandywine residents playing and staying closer to home these last few months. Chester County's abundance of parks, trails and open spaces allow many to get out or 'staycation' in beautiful and unique outdoor settings.

In East Brandywine, our Community Park's walking trails are open for use. Ballfields and pavilions are available for Township residents' informal use. The pavilions offer shaded areas where families and friends can safely distance. And the fields are good for young ones to expend their energy. All is done at your own risk. There is no sanitizing of Park facilities.

Bondsville Mill Park is another place of refuge for Township residents.



*Chrysalis display at BMP.  
Photo: Bondsville Mill Committee.*

Throughout the summer people of all ages were seen enjoying the walking trails, the Mill gardens, fishing, and cooling down with a splash in the creek.

While Downingtown Library's planned programs for the Park had to be held virtually, some of the projects initiated during the Zoom calls could be seen within the Park. Children made Fairy Houses out of natural materials and hid them along the trails. There was a Fairy Tale Scavenger Hunt where 10 fairy tale characters could be found hiding in the Park.

The Philadelphia Watercolor Society members were seen painting in the gardens, and even held a Zoom meeting for their members to highlight places within the Park that an artist can capture on canvas.

One of the more popular programs at the park was the display of the Monarch butterflies. Monarchs only lay eggs on milkweed and the eggs were retrieved from the milkweed grown in the gardens by volunteers. The chrysalis and caterpillars were taken home by volunteers to keep them from predators. With the help of young park visitors, over 50 butterflies were released. Before they begin their flight to Mexico, as Monarchs do every year, the volunteers will tag them to see if any return here next year.



*Children enjoying the Monarch Presentation. Photo: Bondsville Mill Historic Committee.*

As the seasons change, so will the beauty of the natural settings in our Township parks. If you haven't yet explored the Bondsville Mill Park or our Community Park we encourage you to do so soon!

For more information on our Township parks, follow them on Facebook at [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/EBT-PARKS/](https://www.facebook.com/EBT-PARKS/) AND [HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/BONDVILLEMILLPARK/](https://www.facebook.com/BONDVILLEMILLPARK/).

# Township Supervisor Appointment

## New Supervisor George Scherbak

**A**T THE JULY 16 Board of Supervisors meeting, Kenneth Ader's resignation as Township Supervisor was accepted. In accordance with state regulations, an interim Supervisor is appointed by the current board to serve until the next municipal election. As general rule in PA "municipal election years" are odd-numbered.

Six East Brandywine residents applied for the position. The applicants were: Carl Croft, George Scherbak, Bruce Rawlings, Sandy Moser, Greg Wagman, and Jim Buczala. Details of the public interviews with these individuals can be found at [HTTPS://WWW.EBRANDYWINE.ORG/AGENDACENTER/VIEWFILE/MINUTES/\\_07162020-830](https://www.ebrandywine.org/agendacenter/viewfile/minutes/_07162020-830).

On August 17, the Township Vacancy Board selected **George Scherbak** to serve as Township Supervisor. Mr. Scherbak will serve as Supervisor until the next municipal election, which will be held in November 2021. In November 2021, the voters of East Brandywine Township will select two supervisors:

- One for a six-year term representing the seat currently held by Chairman Scribner; and
- One for a four-year term representing the remainder of the term vacated by Ken Ader and now held by George Scherbak.

For more information on how local government works, see the Citizen's Guide to Pennsylvania Local Government at [HTTPS://DCED.PA.GOV/DOWNLOAD/CITIZENS-GUIDE-TO-PENNSYLVANIA-LOCAL-GOVERNMENT-PDF/?WPDMDL=57750&IND=0](https://dced.pa.gov/download/citizen-guide-to-pennsylvania-local-government-pdf/?WPDMDL=57750&IND=0).



George Scherbak being sworn in as Township Supervisor.  
Photo: E. Brandywine Township



## Fall Leaf Collection

### WEEK 1

OCTOBER 26 – OCTOBER 30

### WEEK 2

NOVEMBER 9 – NOVEMBER 13

### WEEK 3

NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 4

Please place all leaves along the side of the road on lawn area within six feet of the road edge before the Monday of collection week. Placing leaves on the lawn allows the leaves to dry and the vacuum can more easily pick them up.

Leaves must not be placed on the roadway, as this can cause a traffic hazard and will not be picked up by the Road Crew. Do not block storm drain inlets and drainage areas. Our leaf vacuum cannot pick up sticks and branches, so please do not mix them with your leaf piles. Leaves can be placed in paper leaf bags, but not in plastic bags.

If you have any further questions, please contact the East Brandywine Township Office at **610-269-8230**.

**DID YOU KNOW...?**

**United States Census 2020**

You still have time to complete the 2020 Census, but the clock to do so by the new September 30 deadline is ticking. **Let's celebrate why townships are a great place to live, work, play, and raise a family by returning your 2020 Census by Constitution Day, September 17.** The Founding Fathers, after all, mandated a decennial count in the U.S. Constitution. Show your civic and township pride by returning your survey by this date and encouraging friends, family, and neighbors to do the same.

#2020CENSUS




THE *Milemarker*

1214 Horseshoe Pike  
Downingtown, PA 19335-1153

Presorted  
Standard Mail  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit #50  
West Chester, PA

## Fall 2020 Calendar of Events

Due to COVID-19, all meetings are being held virtually until further notice. Please visit [www.ebrandywine.org](http://www.ebrandywine.org), for instructions on viewing and participating in any public meeting, and for more information on any event.

### OCT 2019

1	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
1	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
5	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
6	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
7	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
13	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
13	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
14	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
15	<b>Board of Supervisors Meeting</b>	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
21	Ordinance Task Force Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
23	Bondsville Mill Committee	Township Bldg	8:00 am
24	Municipal Authority (if needed)	Township Bldg	8:00 am

### DEC 2020

1	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
2	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
3	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
3	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
7	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
8	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
8	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
9	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
16	Ordinance Task Force Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
17	Bondsville Mill Committee	Township Bldg	8:00 am
17	<b>Board of Supervisors Meeting</b>	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
18	Municipal Authority (if needed)	Township Bldg	8:00 am
24	<b>Christmas Holiday Observed—Administrative Offices Closed</b>		
25	<b>Christmas Holiday Observed—Administrative Offices Closed</b>		

### NOV 2019

2	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
2	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
4	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
5	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
5	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
10	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
10	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
11	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
18	Ordinance Task Force Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
19	Bondsville Mill Committee	Township Bldg	8:00 am
19	<b>Board of Supervisors Meeting</b>	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
20	Municipal Authority (if needed)	Township Bldg	8:00 am
26	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday Observed—Administrative Offices Closed</b>		
27	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday Observed—Administrative Offices Closed</b>		

## US Flag and Prescription Drug Collection Boxes

Available at the Township Building for proper disposal of these items. For more information:

[HTTP://EBRANDYWINE.ORG/297/US-FLAG-PRESCRIPTION-DRUG-COLLECTION-BOX](http://EBRANDYWINE.ORG/297/US-FLAG-PRESCRIPTION-DRUG-COLLECTION-BOX)

