

THE *Milemarker*

EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

In-person meetings are back.

COVID-19 *Updates*

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

ALL MEETINGS ARE now being held in-person and at the Township Building. Page 2 lists regularly scheduled public meetings. The governor's emergency disaster declaration has been terminated and we have returned to pre-declaration conditions.

TOWNSHIP FACILITIES

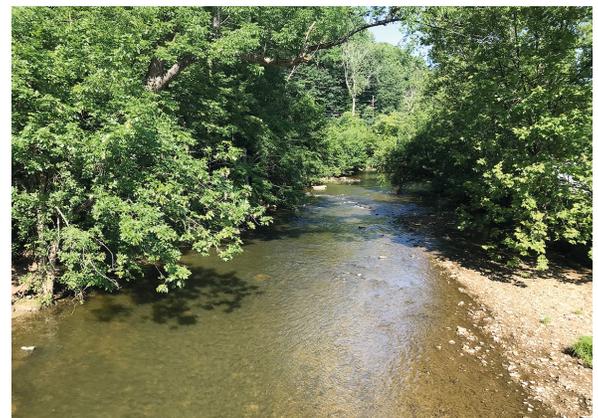
ALL TOWNSHIP PARKS AND FACILITIES are open to the public. The Township is following Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for masking. At press time, these were: (1) masks are required only for unvaccinated individuals in indoor facilities; and (2) no individuals are required to wear masks at outdoor facilities. On July 27, CDC guidelines for mask wearing were revised to again to require all individuals to wear masks in public indoor spaces in counties with "substantial" or "high" transmission rates. At press time Chester County did not meet these criteria.

For the latest information on the COVID-19 news and regulations in Pennsylvania and Chester County, WWW.CHESCO.ORG/CORONAVIRUS

Latest Open Space Program Acquisition

Protecting Land Along the Brandywine Creek

THE OPEN SPACE Committee and Board of Supervisors are pleased to announce the permanent protection of a vulnerable section of East Branch Brandywine Creek. The acquisition of the 12-acre property enables future access to the creek for recreation and protects the scenic view along Route 282 (Creek Road).



The Shryock property along East Branch Brandywine Creek.

This acquisition "is quite significant," said Oliver Bass, president of Natural Lands, the region's oldest and largest land conservation organization. "This stretch of East Branch Brandywine Creek has been a conservation priority in every Chester County Comprehensive Plan for at least the last four decades. The successful outcome of this project represents years of work to line up all the partners, funders, and details."

The parcel, known as the Shryock property, includes both sides of the creek for about a half-mile. It is adjacent to property already owned by the Township. The Shryock property runs north and south of the Dorlan Mill Road bridge near the northernmost end of the Struble Trail.

Funding for the preservation of this project was provided by the East Brandywine Township Open Space Program and the Chester County Preservation Partnership Program.

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Directory

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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

TOWNSHIP PUBLIC MEETINGS (Held at Township Building)

Board of Supervisors 3rd THU, 6:30 pm
 and 1ST THU, 8:00 am
 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 4th 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.darc.info
 Park & Rec... parkandrec@ebrandywine.org

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

x200 Norann King, Building Department
 x201 Lisa Valatis, Township Treasurer
 x218 Lisa Taraschi, Township Secretary
 x204 Matthew VanLew, Roadmaster
 x203 Luke Reven, Township Manager
 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

Parks and Rec Fall Events

Community activities for everyone

Fore the Parks at Honey Brook Golf Club

WED, SEP 22, 8AM

The Golf Outing is the only major fundraiser for Parks and Recreation in 2021. The event will feature an 8:00 am shotgun start, breakfast, lunch, prizes, and all the amenities of a great round of golf on a beautiful course. Cost is \$115/golfer. Sponsorships are available from \$25 - \$1,000. Let's "fill the golf course" as all proceeds will benefit future playground improvements. Information is available at WWW.EBRANDYWINE.ORG.



Movie: Toy Story 4

SAT, SEP 25, APPROXIMATELY 7:30PM

Woody and Friends come to the Community Park as we show our last movie of the season. Enjoy free popcorn for all compliments of Big Air Cinema.



Fall Harvest Festival

SUN, OCT 10, 12:00 NOON - 3PM

The Festival is Parks and Recreation's largest community event for 2021. The day begins with a noontime costume parade for children up to 12 years of age. Enjoy scarecrow building, hayrides to the pumpkin patch, pumpkin decorating, face painting, witches tales, moon bounces, trunk or treat, food by Hopewell Troop 8 and Sabatinos Grill, crafters and vendors, games, music, and so much more.



Tree Lighting Ceremony

SUN, DEC 5, 3 - 5PM (RAIN DATE SUN DEC 12)

Join us to make ornaments and decorate the tree. We're hoping Santa and Mrs. Santa will make an appearance. If you bring a nonperishable food item, or mittens, hats, scarves, or socks to donate to the Lord's Pantry you'll be entered to have a chance to "Flip the Switch" on the tree! Hot chocolate and cookies will be served, and carols sung as we welcome the Holiday Season.



Historical Commission Updates

Fall 2021 East Brandywine Historical Commission Speakers Series

Aren't You Hot in Those Clothes?

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021, 3:00 PM
EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP BUILDING

Have you ever seen women and men at reenactments and historic sites dressed up in the clothing of another time period and wondered just how they were tolerating the heat of a summer day in that getup? This lighthearted presentation will explain the whys and wherefores of clothing worn during the 1700s.

Elizabeth Bertheaud, the presenter, is the Historic Site Administrator for Ephrata Cloister, 632 West Main Street in Ephrata. Started in 1732 the community's unique lifestyle allowed the creation of incredible architecture, original music, significant publications, and remarkable art.



Downingtown & Lancaster Railroad

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2021, 3:00 PM
EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP BUILDING

Historically, the East Brandywine and Waynesburg Railroad Company first connected the Pennsylvania Railroad (PRR) Main Line at Downingtown to Waynesburg (now Honey Brook), PA in November 1861. By December 1876, trackage extended west from Honey Brook to New Holland, PA. The railroad bordered East Brandywine until 1955. Come hear all about the D&L – nicknamed Dark & Lonely!



Mark W. Hoffman, a railroad enthusiast, photographer, and historian from Leola, PA, will present an overview of the Downingtown and Lancaster Railroad. His digital presentation will review the 39-mile line's history and route. In addition, he will cover current operations on the remaining trackage in Lancaster County.

PLAQUE DEDICATION

DOWNINGTOWN INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL

In September, the Delaware County Community College (DCCC) will celebrate the



Downingtown Industrial and Agricultural School that existed in East Brandywine from 1905 until 1993 on the property now occupied by DCCC. The presentation will include alumni and historical background. There will be the dedication of a plaque in recognition of the school started by prominent Philadelphians John S. Trower and William A. Credit (pastor of Philadelphia's First African Baptist Church) and was modeled after Alabama's Tuskegee Institute. **Check East Brandywine Township's website for date and details.**

ORAL HISTORY INTERVIEWS

An exciting project by the East Brandywine Historical Commission has been to interview area residents! To date, 14 interviews have been completed with individuals and couples. The interviews are diverse - from one person who worked at the Bondsville Mill, to life on the area farms and businesses, to attending school in one-room schoolhouses. Stories will be on the website soon.

We are looking forward to doing more interviews and would love to hear from anyone that has a story to share. Email: CAROLSINEX@GMAIL.COM



FUNDING THE RENOVATION

YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED

The cost of the renovation to the East Brandywine Firehouse is 3.1 million dollars. The funds to pay for the building will come from a variety of sources. The first \$500,000 will be paid from the Fire Company's savings. To fund the remainder of the project, the Fire Company has secured a nonprofit loan and will be taking on a mortgage payment.

To date, \$170,000 has been raised Firehouse through individual pledges and fundraisers. An event at Stolen Sun Brewery in Exton in June raised \$15,000. Support is being sought from different stakeholders:

- East Brandywine Township Supervisors pledged \$100,000 a year over the life of the loan.
- Upper Uwchlan and West Brandywine have committed to providing funds, amount TBD.
- Grant applications are being secured for operational needs.
- Community members.
- Additional fundraising events.

The Direct Mail Building campaign will continue throughout and beyond the renovation. For more information on how to donate and to see FAQ, please go to **WWW.**

EBFC49.ORG

Meeting Space and More at the Township Firehouse

Building Renovation Underway

RENOVATIONS CONTINUE TO move forward on the East Brandywine Firehouse. “The improvements to the firehouse will provide our emergency workers with the facilities to easily and safely do their jobs,” says John Edwards, President and Past Chief. “Decontamination rooms, training facilities, lounge areas, sleeping quarters, and private offices will help us to improve the level of service we provide to the community. The community rooms will allow residents to use and rent in the building in ways we’ve never been able to offer to them before.”

The second floor of the building will house a large meeting space with a kitchenette and outdoor deck. This space can be used by local organizations for meetings or by individuals for small private parties. There will also be two conference/training rooms that are suited for offsite corporate meetings or team workspaces.

East Brandywine Fire Company has over 60 volunteer firefighters and EMTs responding to an average of 875 calls each year. They also respond to calls for West Brandywine and a part of Upper Uwchlan. F.W. Houder, Inc., whose firm has renovated firehouses in Paoli, Skippack, and Conshohocken, is the company completing this project. Owner Frank Houder tells us “The volunteers in East Brandywine are all in. They do such a great job for the community—unlike anything I’ve ever seen anywhere else.”

The project is on track for completion in Spring 2022. The EBFC remain fully operational during the renovation. Stop by or call to set up an appointment. The firefighters will be happy to show you around.

Skip VanLew Retires after 60 Years of Service



EARLIER THIS YEAR, Skip VanLew, retired as an East Brandywine FC volunteer. Skip served our community since 1960 when he started as a driver operator for Downingtown Alert Station 45. In 1978 Skip joined EBFC and held many roles as an active member. Skip’s skills as a driver are the benchmark by which other drivers have been trained. He always held the number one spot for most responses every year. Thank you, Skip, for your outstanding service to our Township. Wishing you many days of fishing and bringing home the “Big One”.

Police Report

East Brandywine Township—Ranked 7 of the 10 Safest Cities in Pennsylvania

“**P**ENNSYLVANIA CONTINUES TO have lower crime rates than the rest of the country, and its safest cities report fewer than five crimes per 1,000 people on average. Despite a low incidence of crime statewide, Pennsylvanians still worry about their safety more than most Americans. Lucky for residents of East Brandywine, we’ve been recognized as one of the top 10 safest.”

Chief Kocsi enthusiastically shared that announcement earlier this summer when Safewise, an independent research company focused on home and community safety, released their list of the 10 Safest Cities in Pennsylvania for 2021.

Chief also shared, “With all of the negativity we are experiencing in our profession and dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic issues, I think many of us second-guessed continuing in the profession. The recognition of being ranked the 7th safest place to live in PA was a huge morale boost to the entire Department. These recognitions validate the decisions we’ve made over the years about putting the right Officers in supervisory positions, hiring the highest quality Police Officers, deciding to seek PA State Law Enforcement Accreditation, and working to maintain the community relationships we have with all of our stakeholders.

Without the amazing support from residents, I don't think we would be as successful. Thank you for assisting us in being recognized for this amazing achievement. Congratulations to the Officers for their dedication, sacrifices, and hard work.

As one of the fastest-growing municipalities in the County, we face many challenges. Primary are: how to maintain fiscal responsibility while adding Officers to handle increased crime, call volumes, traffic issues, etc. and how to retain Officers in a climate of uncertainty. Most importantly is how to keep our Township one of the safest places to live. I can assure all the residents that we are up to the task and will continue to provide the highest level of dedication and service.”

I think anytime you are recognized for an outstanding achievement it validates the reason why we become Police Officers.

—Chief Mark Kocsi, East Brandywine Police Department



GREG KOHLMAIER

BASIC LIFE SUPPORT PROVIDER OF THE YEAR

In May, QRS Captain Greg Kohlmaier was named the Basic Life Support Provider of the Year by the Chester County EMS Council. Every year the many great achievements of EMS responders in Chester County are recognized in an Awards Ceremony.

Greg joined East Brandywine Fire Company in 2014 and decided EMS was his path. As an EMT he began running EMS calls with QRS 49 and quickly rose through the ranks. In his current role as Captain, he oversees 22 volunteer EMTs.

Greg responds to over 70% of the EMS calls for which QRS 49 is dispatched. He also responds to fire calls, trains new EMTs as an evaluator for Chester County Department of Emergency Services, and works with MICU 46 and MICU 93, the two main ambulance companies responding with EBFC.

Greg is an amazing volunteer and person. Along with the members of EBFC, we congratulate Greg on this incredible achievement.



MARCHING BAND HEADED TO ROSE PARADE

DONATING HOURS AT PARK TO SAY THANKS!

Downingtown's Blue and Gold Marching Band is headed to the 132nd Rose Parade in Pasadena, CA. This honor, extended to only 12 high school bands from the thousands of applications received, marks the third time that Downingtown has been represented in Pasadena.

To thank the community for support of the band, students are asked to give back by completing 25 hours of community service. Band members, comprised of students from both Downingtown West and Downingtown East, are donating volunteer hours at Bondsville Mill Park.

Pictured is a group working on seating at the Mill's future amphitheater. Restore Our Roots coordinated and provided oversight for the student's activities at the Mill. (Restore Our Roots is a sub-committee of Downingtown's Parks and Recreation Committee)

Thank you to the band members for their help. The estimated total cost of this once-in-a-lifetime trip is over \$900,000. If you would like to donate to help the students, please go to [HTTPS://WWW.DASD.ORG/DOMAIN/5057](https://www.dasd.org/domain/5057)

Eagle Scout Restores War Memorial

Honoring those who served

IN 2012, ZACH Volz identified the restoration of the WWII and Korean War Memorial on the Bondsville Mill property as a worthy Eagle Scout project. Dedicated by the Aikens Mills owners and employees in 1946, the Memorial had fallen into a state of disrepair during its 65 years of existence.

The Memorial itself was barely noticeable from the road and hardly anyone in the Township knew it even existed. Zach researched what it would take to restore and beautify the stone, plaque, and flagpole monument as part of his effort. After 45 days, Zach was able to present and obtain approval from his troop, Hopewell Troop 8, Chester County Council for the BSA, and East Brandywine Township to:

- Clean up the site.
- Remove any invasive trees and foliage.
- Trim and prune all salvageable trees and brush.
- Obtain assistance from Asplundh Tree Service to donate time, equipment, and labor to open up the tree canopy and remove trees and large branches preventing sunlight from shining on the memorial.
- Organize and lead a work detail of scouts, adults and other peer volunteers to power wash the stonework and masonry, prime and paint the flagpole install a memorial flower and plant garden in the foreground and fully restore, to the best of their ability (with technical help from the National Park Service), the faded and damaged Bronze Plaque listing those that had served in either War and those that had sacrificed their lives in the cause of freedom.



Zach was deeply moved by the outpouring of support from the community of adults and peers in making his project a success. His goal was to recognize the efforts of all who had served, especially his Uncles Robert and Stephen DePorter who served in the Vietnam War with distinction, both having received Purple heart medals.

Although Zach recognizes that he alone is not responsible for inciting the restoration and beautification of the Memorial or the Park, he is proud to say he got in on the ground floor. We thank Zack for recognizing the value of bringing the memorial back into public view. It is now a fitting entryway to all the Park has to offer. For without volunteerism and service, projects such as the "BMP restoration" would still be just an idea instead of a model for all other PA communities.

World War II Memorial and Never Forget Garden

A living tribute to America's veterans

WHEN FIRST ARRIVING at Bondsville Mill Park, many visitors stop by the War Memorial near the parking area. The Mill's memorial was built to honor those millworkers that served in WWII. Considered an essential business during the war, the Mill made the lining for the bomber crews' jackets with what could be a lifesaving map printed on it.

On Memorial Day this year, the Bondsville Mill Park committee was honored to erect a Never Forget Garden Marker beside the Mill's Memorial Monument. A Never Forget Garden is a memorial not only to unknown soldiers but also a living tribute to all American military service veterans and their families. It's a place to honor their sacrifice and service to defend and preserve America in the past, the present, and for future generations.

George P. March, a frequent park visitor and one of the past presidents of the Society of the Honor Guard, Tomb of The Unknown Soldier (SHGTUS), donated the Never Forget Garden Marker. His comments on behalf of the SHGTUS and its members: "I sincerely thank you for agreeing to create a Never Forget Garden near the veterans' monument and flagpole at the Park in remembrance of the mill workers who served during WWII and the two infantrymen and two sailors who gave their lives during the war; and for creating as the garden marker states, "a living tribute to all of America's veterans and their families".



The East Brandywine remembrance is the first, and so far, the only, Never Forget Garden in Chester County. Living there in the beautiful Never Forget Garden are purple viola, tulip, daisy, primrose, poppy, and forget me not flowers, all of them having symbolic meaning. Oak and silver birch trees, symbols of strength and hope, grow nearby.

This year, 2021, is the 100th anniversary of the internment on November 11, 1921, of the Unknown Soldier of World War I, officiated by President Warren G. Harding. Among many Centennial memorial activities and recognitions being planned by the Department of Defense and Arlington National Cemetery, and the Society of The Honor Guard, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, one is a Never Forget Garden encouraged by the Society. For more information on this and other centennial projects [HTTPS://TOMBGUARD.ORG/CENTENNIAL/PROJECTS#NEVER-FORGET-GARDEN](https://tombguard.org/centennial/projects#never-forget-garden)

ON THE MOVE RECENTLY SOLD HOMES IN EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP

1212 Osborne Road.....	\$895,000
281 N. Guthriesville Road...	\$775,000
534 Prizer Court.....	\$470,000
457 Brookside Drive.....	\$285,000
375 Dawson Place.....	\$465,000
169 Preakness Way.....	\$711,277
123 Ridgewood Circle.....	\$487,000
1163 Osborne Road.....	\$470,000
36 Blakely Road.....	\$520,000
157 Bowery Lane.....	\$697,517
102 Grandview Road.....	\$460,000
825 S. Haines Circle.....	\$610,000
21 Harner Court.....	\$730,000
230 Zynn Road.....	\$760,000
49 Locks Farm Lane.....	\$450,000
245 Seven Springs Lane....	\$599,490
40 N. Terralee Lane.....	\$774,670
142 Sills Lane.....	\$370,000
23 Gloucester Drive.....	\$423,000
125 Governors Circle.....	\$375,000
25 Meghan Court.....	\$820,000
216 Patriot Lane.....	\$850,000
203 Silver Fox Lane.....	\$605,000
428 Hallman Court.....	\$589,900

Source: **ZILLOW.COM**

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FALL 2021

Volume 28, Number 3

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THE Milemarker

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Downingtown, PA 19335-1153

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Permit #50
West Chester, PA

Fore the Parks Golf Outing

SEP 22, 8:00 am, Honeybrook Golf Club

Movie: Toy Story 4

SEP 25, 7:30 pm. Community Park

Fall Harvest Festival

OCT 10, 12:00 noon, Community Park

Run for the Parks

OCT 19, 5:30 pm. Community Park

Tree Lighting Ceremony

DEC 5, 3:00 pm, Community Park

Fall 2021 Calendar of Events

SEP 2021

1	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
2	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
2	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
6	Labor Day Observed —Administrative Offices Closed		
7	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
8	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
14	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
14	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
16	Board of Supervisors Reg Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
22	Fore the Parks Golf Outing	Honeybrook Golf Club	8:00 am
22	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
25	Movie in the Park—Toy Story 4	Community Pk	7:30 pm

OCT 2021

4	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
5	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
6	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
7	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
7	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
10	Fall Harvest Festival	Community Pk	12 noon
12	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
12	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
13	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
19	Run for the Parks	Community Pk	5:30 pm
21	Board of Supervisors Reg Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
27	Ordinance Task Force Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
28	Bondsville Mill Committee	Township Bldg	8:00 am
29	Municipal Authority (if needed)	Township Bldg	8:00 am

NOV 2021

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

DEC 2021

1	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
2	Board of Supervisors Work Session	Township Bldg	8:00 am
2	Open Space Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
5	Tree Lighting Ceremony	Community Pk	3:00 pm
6	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
7	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
8	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
14	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
14	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
16	Board of Supervisors Reg Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
22	Ordinance Task Force Meeting	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
23	Bondsville Mill Committee	Township Bldg	8:00 am
23	Christmas Holiday Observed —Administrative Offices Closed		
24	Christmas Holiday Observed —Administrative Offices Closed		
24	Municipal Authority (if needed)	Township Bldg	8:00 am
31	New Year Holiday Observed —Administrative Offices Closed		
1/1	New Year Holiday Observed —Administrative Offices Closed		