

THE Milemarker

EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER



WE DID IT!

BONDSDVILLE MILL PARK
RECOGNIZED AS AN
ACCREDITED ARBORETUM!

Bondsville Mill Park & Gardens has been awarded a Level 1 Accreditation by The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program and The Morton Arboretum, for achieving particular standards of professional practices deemed important for arboreta and botanic gardens.

The ArbNet Arboretum Accreditation Program is the only global initiative to officially recognize arboreta at various levels of development, capacity, and professionalism.

Bondsville Mill Park & Gardens is also now recognized as an accredited arboretum in the Morton Register of Arboreta, a database of the world's arboreta and gardens dedicated to woody plants.

Information about the BMP Arboretum Trees can be found at BONDSDVILLEMILLPARK.ORG/ARBORETUM.HTML. Click on the link for "Bondsville Mill Arboretum Project Research."

Bondsville Mill Park

THE FALL SEASON was an exciting and busy one at Bondsville Mill Park. It was also one of many volunteer hours to keep the plants and trees healthy during the drought.



Culp Clearing's opening was a grand affair! On Wednesday, October 2 a private ribbon cutting ceremony was hosted for the agencies and donors that helped fund the garden. County Commissioner Eric Roe spoke about the county's role in support of the park. Former East Brandywine Supervisor Jay Fischer remembered when the site was first purchased and there was a mass of invasive plants and rubble. Leadership from many of the region's well-known public gardens walked the garden pathways.

At the Community Opening on Saturday, October 5, several hundred people visited on what was a beautiful day in the gardens. In addition to highlighting Culp Clearing, tables along the pathways provided information on the other features in the park, including the bird watch area and trails. Monarch butterflies were released. Two internationally-known artists displayed their art and had students working on pieces in the garden. The Chester County Beekeepers Association was there to talk about all aspects of beekeeping. Honey and plants were for sale.

BMP was also featured in *Main Line Today* in November. See MAINLINETODAY.COM/LIFE-STYLE/BONDSDVILLE-MILL-PARK. While the gardens will be in full bloom in Spring and Summer, don't miss an opportunity to enjoy the views of Beaver Creek and the peaceful trails during the Winter months. The Nature Library will be closed until early March due to renovations. Check the website for updated information on events and activities at BONDSDVILLEMILLPARK.ORG.

In this issue

- 2 DARC Programs
- 3 Open Space Committee
- 4 Public Works Dept.
- 5 Parks and Recreation
- 6 EB Police Department
- 7 Historical Commission

Directory

TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Chairman Kyle P. Scribner
 Vice Chairman Carl K. Croft
 Member Francis Taraschi

TOWNSHIP PUBLIC MEETINGS (Held at Township Building)

Board of Supervisors. 3rd THU, 6:30 PM
 and 1ST THU, 9:00 AM
 Bondsville Mill Comm. 4th THU, 8:00 AM
 Budget Committee 2nd THU, 9:00 AM
 Historical Commission . . . 2nd WED, 7:00 PM
 Municipal Authority 2nd TUE, 8:00 AM
 Open Space Committee. . . 1st THU, 7:30 PM
 Ordinance Task Force. . . . 4th WED, 7:00 PM
 Park and Rec Board 1st MON, 7:00 PM
 Planning Commission . . . 1st WED, 7:00 PM
 Trails Committee 2nd TUE, 7:00 PM
 Zoning Hearing Board . . . 2nd 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@brandywine.org

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

x100 Police Administration
 x201 Emily Albert, Township Treasurer
 x202 Norann King, Building Department
 x203 Luke Reven, Township Manager
 x204 Matthew VanLew, Roadmaster
 x209 Gabby Brown, Municipal Auth. Admin.
 x210 Dennis Mulhern, Tax Collector
 x218 Lisa Taraschi, Township Secretary
 x299 Alexis Bocelli, Township Receptionist

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

DARC Programs 2025

After-School, Vacation, and Sports

THANKS FOR YOUR support of DARC. We look forward to seeing you at one of our many programs in 2025! Don't miss these exciting activities happening in East Brandywine Township. Visit DARC.INFO for more details and registration information, or call 610-269-9260.

Premier Vacation Packages

Black Hills, Badlands, Mt. Rushmore
DEPARTURE: 07/16

Treasures of Ireland
DEPARTURE: 10/14

Switzerland and Christmas
 Markets Rhine River Cruise
DEPARTURE: 12/3

Day Trips by Coach Bus

Explore exciting destinations like New York City, Washington, D.C., Annapolis, MD, and Cape May, NJ.

Afterschool Yoga Club

Join Rebecca for afternoons full of movement and mindfulness! All materials are provided, and no experience is necessary.
01/08-02/12, 3:30-4:30 PM

Afterschool Art Club with Young Rembrandts

Transform after school into an art adventure! Young artists will explore projects like Fish Below Ice, travel to the Great Wall of China, and learn about famous works like Da Vinci's Blue Horse.

SPRINGTON MANOR:
01/27-03/03, 3:45-4:45 PM

BRANDYWINE WALLACE:
03/06-04/03, 3:45-4:45 PM

After School Art Classes with Abrakadoodle

Let's create Off the Wall fun with 3D sculptures, textiles, mobiles, and art

inspired by Alexander Calder, Chinese opera masks, and James Rizzi!
BRANDYWINE WALLACE:
MONDAYS, 01/13-03/24, 3:45-4:45 PM

School Days Out ART Camp

Enjoy a fun-filled day of art with Abrakadoodle! Camps include lessons, crafts, games, and more for ages 5-12.
1/20, 2/17, 3/10, 4/17-4/21, 5/20

Arty Night Out

Enjoy a creative night out with friends! Explore artists from around the world while using watercolor, acrylic, pastels, and more. Don't worry about dinner—add \$10 for pizza!
1/17, 2/21, 3/21, 4/25, 5/16, 5:30-8:30 PM

LEGO® Programs with Snapology

Additional afterschool LEGO® adventures for ages 5-11 will return this winter at Springton Manor and Brandywine Wallace.

Soccer Shots

Soccer Shots is an engaging children's soccer program focused on character development. Our caring team positively impacts children's lives both on and off the field through best-in-class coaching, curriculum, and communication.

Mark Your Calendar!

The 2025 DARC Program Brochure will be delivered to local mailboxes by the end of February.

Open Space Committee

Township Acquires Former Shady Acres Campground Property

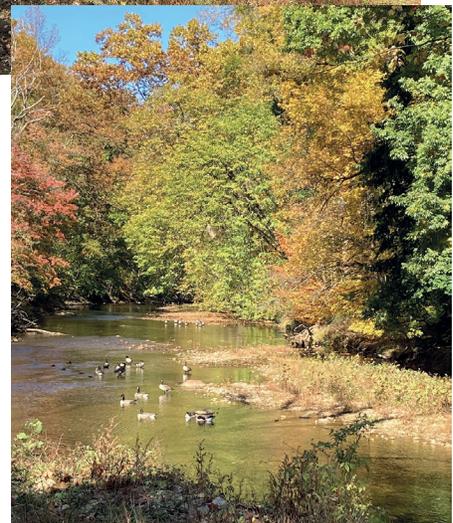
THE OPEN SPACE Committee and Board of Supervisors, in partnership with Natural Lands Trust, are pleased to announce the permanent protection of a vulnerable section of East Branch Brandywine Creek. The acquisition of the 14.6-acre former campground property further protects the scenic view along Route 282 (Creek Road). This property was very attractive to the Open Space Committee since it is adjacent to 200+ acres already preserved in the southeast section of the Township.

Over 28% of acreage in the Township now secured as open space.

The Brandywine Creek corridor above Downingtown has been listed as a high priority for protection in every County Comprehensive Plan over the past 25 years. With this acquisition, 52 percent of the riparian buffer (shoreline) of the Brandywine Creek on the Township side is fully protected, including the entire stretch from the southern Township line to north of Dowlin Forge Road.

The property has been in the McQueen family for several generations. Shady Acres Campground opened to the public in 1972. It hosted many weekend campers, including travel trailers and tents. This included many people from suburban Philadelphia looking for weekends away from the city. According to Bill McQueen, “Shady Acres was quite popular, since at the time, it was the closest campground to Valley Forge National Park.” There was an arcade/game room, swimming pool, snacks for sale, a paddle boat, and canoe rentals. It often accommodated groups of campers that traveled together. Square dancing events were occasionally held in an outdoor pavilion. The campground eventually transitioned to a seasonal-only facility. Operations ceased about 25 years ago.

The near-term goal of the Board of Supervisors is to restore the property to its natural state. It is expected that the majority of the acquisition and restoration costs will be covered by county and state grant programs, with the balance coming from the Township Open Space fund. With this acquisition, the Township has secured parcels of open space totaling 2,044 acres, or 28.6% of 7,146 total acres in East Brandywine Township.



Photos of area along Route 282 preserved as Open Space.

Meet the East Brandywine Township Public Works Department

Providing Quality Services to Residents & Travelers



Photo from left to right: Matt Hensel, Derrick Claas, Kyle Mortzfield, Jeremy Lelii, Matthew VanLew.

By Matthew VanLew

THE EAST BRANDYWINE

Township Public Works Department is a diverse group of men. Each person brings their own expertise to the Department to help fulfill the needs of our residents and those who use our parks and roads daily.

Beyond cutting grass and plowing snow, the Public Works crew maintains four parks, the Township Building, and additional park amenities. Other responsibilities include tree trimming and mowing road edges to help maintain adequate sight distances and maintaining countless miles of stormwater systems by clearing drains of litter and debris. The Department also provides a

chipping service on a bi-weekly basis and leaf collection during the Fall and Spring months.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DEPARTMENT

Matthew VanLew is the Township Roadmaster. Married with 11 grandchildren, he has worked for the Township for 25 years. Prior to working for the Township, he owned a carpentry business for 13 years. His business knowledge and construction skills were instrumental during the construction of the Township Administration Building and continued maintenance. Matthew is responsible for administration and inspections of projects such as yearly paving.

Derrick Claas is the Township Foreman. Derrick is married with two children and has worked for the Department for 10 years. He brings his electrical knowledge and mechanical abilities to benefit the Department. One major contribution was the replacement of the Township Building's interior lighting from fluorescent to LED. Derrick was promoted to Foreman two and a half years ago and has proven leadership skills. He is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Department.

Kyle Mortzfield has worked for the Department for eight years. Married with two sons, Kyle has expert mechanical and carpentry skills. His current responsibilities include

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 5]

Parks and Recreation

Additions & Changes to Our Township Parks

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS



The AEDs, originally obtained via Aidan's Heart Foundation, are now fully all-weather. If the need arises, AEDs are available at three different locations at the Community Park—at the maintenance building and at both the Alison and Krapf Pavilions. An AED is also available at Spatola Park.

NEW TOT LOT



Coming in 2025 is a new Tot Lot. This small playground will feature playground equipment for children ages 2 to 5. The new Tot Lot will be located near the existing swing sets and the new bathrooms in the north end of the Community Park.

WALKING TRAIL REPAVED



The walking trail in the north-west corner of the Community Park has been repaved. The original trail experienced

breakups and the growth of grass in the macadam. You can now experience a very smooth walk or run in this section of our walking trail.

ALL-ABILITIES PLAYGROUND



We look forward to providing many fun events in 2025, including the annual Fore the Parks Golf Outing, concerts, movies, the Fall Festival, and more! Remember our Parks need your support as we work towards raising funds for an All-Abilities Playground. Financial contributions are always welcome as well as assistance in writing grants for the Playground. Contact the township office for more information.

Meet the Public Works Department

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4]

scheduling maintenance for the Department's equipment. Kyle has assisted reroofing numerous municipal-owned buildings and pavilions.

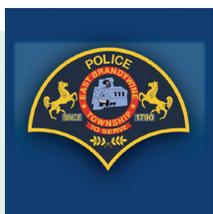
Jeremy Lelii has been with the Department for 11 months and is married with four children. His skills include knowledge of home remodeling. Jeremy demonstrates this knowledge when rebuilding failing stormwater inlets. He has worked with the team clearing trees from roads during the recent clean up from Hurricane Debby.

Matthew Hensel is our newest employee. With us for four months, he has already shown his expertise in mower repair. Matt is married with two children. Matt worked for his father for many years in his mower shop. His managerial skills honed at Home Depot have helped us to make purchasing decisions to choose the best product for the application. In his short time with the Department he has taken on the responsibility of making sure street signs are in good condition.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

East Brandywine Public Works' decision-making is key to fulfilling our mission, which is to provide a safe transportation system and quality services to our residents and those traveling through our community.

More info about the Public Works Department can be found at EBRANDYWINE.ORG/250/PUBLIC-WORKS.



Chief's Corner

SPRING CLEANUP

When preparing for Spring cleanup in April, it is important to remember during the chipping and leaf collection season that you **KEEP BRANCHES AND LEAVES ON YOUR PROPERTY FOR PICKUP AND NOT PILE THEM IN THE STREET.**

Piling branches and blowing leaves into the streets is a violation of the PA Title 75, SS 3709, "Depositing waste and other material on highways, property or waters." Fines and costs for these violations can reach into the hundreds of dollars.

Keeping our streets clean and free of hazards is a priority, so please help us by following the above guidelines.



East Brandywine Police Department

Two New Officers Join EBPD

LAST FALL, TWO new officers were sworn in to serve in our Township Police Department. These officers were hired to replace Officer Danny Miller, who took a position with Limerick Township Police, and Officer Chris Musumeci, who returned to the Philadelphia Police Department.

Brendan Flood graduated from the Delaware County Community College Municipal Police Academy in 2016. He worked at the Chester County Prison as a Correctional Officer and as a Police Officer in Spring City Borough. For the last five years he was a full-time Police Officer in East Pikeland Township. Brendan has a number of law enforcement certifications, which include Advanced Roadside Impairment, Drug Interdiction, Crisis Intervention, Background Investigations, and Field Training Officer. Brendan is also a member of the Chester County Drug Task Force. He is presently completing his bachelor's degree at Penn State University where he is majoring in Criminal Justice and Cyber Security.



From L to R Brendan Flood and his brother Robert who held the Bible for his swearing in. BOS Chairman Scribner administered the oath.

Steven Worrell attended the Delaware County Community College Municipal Police Academy and graduated in December 2009. After graduation, Steven was employed for two years with the Boeing Department of Defense as a Patrol Lieutenant, then as a Police Officer with the Philadelphia Housing Authority where he served for another two years. He transitioned to the Philadelphia Police Department, serving them for five years. This last year Steven was with the Collingdale Borough Police. Anyone who pays attention to the news will understand why he is not there, and he is standing here with us today. Steven's resume is filled with commendations from the Philadelphia Police Department, as well as numerous trainings and certifications in Crisis Intervention training, Tactical De-Escalation, and Interview and Investigations.



Wife Stefanie and son Landon at Steven Worrell's swearing in. Son Liam was unable to attend.

Spring 2025 Historical Commission Speaker Series

Presentations Are in the Township Building

Emotional Gettysburg

SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 3 PM

Emotional Gettysburg combines the wonderful paintings of artist Karl J. Kuerner, the only artist personally taught by Andrew Wyeth and Wyeth's sister, and the essays of Bruce E. Mowday. "We've been told they don't look at Gettysburg the same way after reading our book," Mowday said. "The book goes beyond the history of the Civil War battle and defines what the sacrifices mean to us today. By no means is this is a typical Civil War book." (Books will be available to purchase.) *Presenter: Bruce E. Mowday is an award-winning author and newspaper reporter. He has authored more than 25 books on history, sports, business, and true crime. He has appeared on PBS, Discovery, ReelZ network, C-Span, and many more cable and local TV and radio stations.*



A Mother for America: How Betsy Ross Became the Most Famous Woman in American History

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 3 PM

Unknown outside her family until decades after her death in 1836, Betsy Ross became the most famous woman in American history in the early 20th century. The beer saloon at 239 Arch Street, where she may or may not have lived, became a national shrine to the American flag and second most visited tourist attraction in the city of Philadelphia. A highly illustrated talk will explain how and why Betsy Ross rose to fame and the role she played in Americans' historical memory. *Presenter: Charles Hardy is a West Chester University professor emeritus of history. He has produced award-winning radio, video, and web-based documentaries. He is currently working on the history of Betsy Ross' story and house, which will be published in 2026.*



Finding My Father's Footsteps: A Journey Within the Battlefields of WWII

SUNDAY, MAY 11, 3 PM

Shocked to learn how her father acquired the first volume of Nazi leader Heinrich Himmler's personal copy of Mein Kampf, the author embarks on a journey to defend her father's honor. Armed with a war journal her father never shared with his family, the author returns to the battlefields of Europe tracing the movements of 4th Infantry Divisions 22nd Infantry regiment from D-Day to V-E Day in Europe. *Presenter: Karen Marshal spent 15 years as the county's Heritage Preservation Coordinator and hopes to inspire the audience to connect personally with a history that is as relevant today as it was in 1944.*

ON THE MOVE

RECENTLY SOLD HOMES IN EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP

20 Keller Way.....	\$ 550,000
18 Wyndham Court.....	\$ 357,000
23 Dennis Drive	\$ 145,000
331 S. Caldwell Circle.....	\$ 775,000
544 Prizer Court	\$ 605,000
61 Margil Farm Drive	\$1,180,000
32 Melissa Lane.....	\$ 92,000
28 Grovehill Court	\$ 760,000
622 Rock Raymond Rd	\$ 700,000
322 Dawson Place.....	\$ 512,000
432 Hallman Court.....	\$ 760,000
1154 Horseshoe Pike.....	\$ 638,220
25 Cumberland Drive	\$1,312,500
406 Dilworth Road	\$ 419,000
15 Windemere Court.....	\$ 360,000
1173 Osborne Road	\$ 498,200
42 Blakely Road.....	\$ 535,000
354 North Buck Road....	\$ 495,000
200 La Vida Via.....	\$ 550,000
93 Locks Farm Lane.....	\$ 510,000
2 Raleigh Drive	\$ 526,000

Source: [ZILLOW.COM](https://www.zillow.com)

THE Milemarker

WINTER 2025

Volume 32, Number 1

EDITOR

Diane Sweeney, Editor

DESIGN

Nina Pringle

Send community news to:

EBTMILEMARKER@GMAIL.COM



THE Milemarker

1214 Horseshoe Pike
Downingtown, PA 19335-1153

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

SAVE THE DATE

Emotional Gettysburg
MAR 16, 3 PM, Township Building

**A Mother for America:
How Betsy Ross Became the Most
Famous Woman in American History**
APR 27, 3 PM, Township Building

**Finding My Father's Footsteps:
A Journey Within
the Battlefields of WWII**
MAY 11, 3 PM, Township Building

Winter 2025 Calendar of Events

For more information on any event, see WWW.EBRANDYWINE.ORG

JAN 2025

1	New Year's Day—Administrative Offices Closed		
2	Open Space Committee (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
6	Annual Reorganization Meeting	Township Bldg	9:00 am
7	Board of Auditors Annual Meeting	Township Bldg	3:00 pm
8	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
9	Budget Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	9:00 am
9	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
13	Parks & Rec Board 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
15	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
16	Board of Supervisors PM Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
23	Bondsville Mill Committee	Bondsv Mill Pk	8:00 am

FEB 2025

3	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
5	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
6	Board of Supervisors AM Session	Township Bldg	9:00 am
6	Open Space Committee (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
11	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
11	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
12	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
13	Budget Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	9:00 am
13	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
17	President's Day—Administrative Offices Closed		
20	Board of Supervisors PM Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
27	Bondsville Mill Committee	Bondsv Mill Pk	8:00 am

MAR 2025

3	Parks & Rec Board Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
5	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
6	Board of Supervisors AM Session	Township Bldg	9:00 am
6	Open Space Committee (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
11	Municipal Authority Regular Meeting	Township Bldg	8:00 am
11	Trails Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
12	Historical Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
13	Budget Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	9:00 am
13	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
16	Historical Commission Speaker Series—Emotional Gettysburg	Township Bldg	3:00 pm
20	Board of Supervisors PM Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
27	Bondsville Mill Committee	Bondsv Mill Pk	8:00 am

APR 2025

2	Planning Commission Meeting	Township Bldg	7:00 pm
3	Board of Supervisors AM Session	Township Bldg	9:00 am
3	Pension Committee Meeting (after BOS session)	Township Bldg	10:00 am
3	Open Space Committee (as needed)	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
10	Budget Committee Meeting	Township Bldg	9:00 am
10	Zoning Hearing Board (as needed)	Township Bldg	7:30 pm
17	Board of Supervisors PM Session	Township Bldg	6:30 pm
18	Good Friday—Administrative Offices Closed		
24	Bondsville Mill Committee	Bondsv Mill Pk	8:00 am
27	Historical Commission Speaker Series—A Mother for America: How Betsy Ross Became the Most Famous Woman in American History	Township Bldg	3:00 pm