



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP

TOWNSHIP NEWSLETTER • SPRING 2025 • VOL. 27 N° 1

FREE Shredding Event

The truck will be located in the parking lot on Saturday, April 26th from 9am till noon

as in previous years. This is a popular event and an opportunity to have sensitive documents disposed of properly. Bring your boxes of documents and watch the "shredding." PLEASE NO BUSINESSES - Service for Residents only.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE SHREDDED

All obsolete documents with sensitive personal information: such as tax documents; bank statements/cancelled checks/credit card statements; credit card offers, etc. (staples and small paper clips can be shredded).

WHAT CANNOT BE SHREDDED: Binder Clips, all sizes; spiral bindings, plastic covers, metal rings/binders.

DO NOT BRING: Newspapers, books, magazines, cardboard, X-rays, CDs or floppy discs or any miscellaneous household items. Batteries are a fire hazard - please do not include when you bring your materials for shredding.

Township Email Addresses

We are updating our distribution list for residents who want to receive township information via email. With the cost of postage going up, the township is looking into distribution by email only for our newsletter. With that being said, please send us your current email address to newsletter@pennsbury.pa.us. The Township Newsletter is also found on our website, www.pennsbury.pa.us, under "resources" upper right corner.

Retirement News

Kathy Howley, long-serving manager of the Township, and Dave Allen, equally long-serving Road Master, have recently retired. Their successors are Dan Boyle, who previously served as a Township Supervisor, and Patrick Yerkes, who was promoted from road crew member to Road Master.

"Kathy was always welcoming to residents and others and knowledgeable on all Township issues presented to her," Supervisor Fenton observed. She started in 1978 in the position of Secretary/Treasurer and was promoted in 1994 to assume the position of Township Manager. Kathy oversaw a number of key projects during her time at Pennsbury. The Township is known for its open space preservation and limited development. Kathy shared "being a part of the purchase of the Park property and the preservation of other open space areas was the highlight of my tenure."

Dave Allen was employed as a member of the Township Road Department in 1985 and was promoted to Road Master in 1990. He formed a cohesive unit with the staff in the Road Department and diligently served the Township, keeping the roads safe and passable during inclement weather and maintaining the public parks and properties in an exemplary manner. He had the reputation for working closely with the Board of Supervisors, Township Manager and Township Engineer to handle concerns related to the Township roads and property. "Dave was always there to keep the Township roads open and in excellent condition. We feel we were blessed with the best Road Master in the region," Supervisor Macintyre said.

Pennsbury Township extends best wishes to both Kathy and Dave as they move on to a new and exciting chapter. We thank you for your support and service over the years! •

Branch Pick-Up

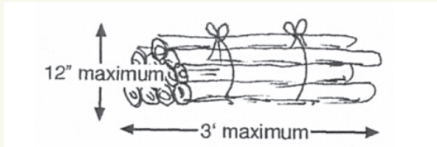
Monday–Friday, April 21–25

The road crew will come by only ONCE during the week so have your branches out on Monday. They will not be collected unless they are properly prepared. If you have questions call Road Master, Patrick Yerkes, at **610-388-9180**.

This program is for residents to get rid of fallen limbs or small trees. IT IS NOT TO BE USED AS A COMMERCIAL TREE SERVICE OR FOR LOT CLEARING. The Township mulch pile is available for residents use. Contact Patrick Yerkes to coordinate pickup or with questions.

Preparation of brush and limbs:

- Brush and limbs must be from your Pennsbury Township property.
- Roots, stumps and limbs with wire and/or nails will NOT be picked up.
- All brush and limbs must be in the right of way.
- Dry, dead brush and tree limbs must be tied in bundles 3' long or less. Each bundle should be not greater than 12" in diameter.



- Fresh-cut (green) limbs, 2" in diameter and larger, should be left full length, placed along roadside with large ends closest to the road, not in a random pile.
- Only 8 bundles of brush and / or tree limbs and 10 fresh cut branches are allowed per property.

Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway Commission Update

The Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway (BVSB) Commission has been busy since the creation of the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad (HT/UGRR) Byway in November 2022. We are developing a partnership with Chester County to jointly tell the story of the Path to Freedom as part of the America250PA celebration on July 4th, 2026. We applied for and received grants to enable us to develop a website for the HT/UGRR Byway. We are very proud to announce our new website for the Tubman Byway. Please visit this site at: www.harriethtubmanbywaypa.com.

Planning Commission Updates

The following is an update of the Planning Commission's (PC) primary meeting topics and activities since the last edition of the Pennsbury Township News.

- A Special Exception and Zoning Variance was presented by Dr. Lewis for 455 Old Baltimore Pike. Dr. Lewis presented expansion plans for his veterinary practice.
- A Subdivision application for the following property was reviewed: Siegfried Consolidation and Development Plan at 1451 Fairville Road. This plan included zoning variance requests as well.
- Zoning Hearing Board Applications were reviewed for the following properties: Mr. Roldan variance request for building at 1509 Fairville Road; Mr. Johnston plans for construction of a garage at 1387 Parkersville Road; Dr. Chacko for construction of an in-ground pool at 6 Colonial Drive.
- Judi Wilson, Chair of the Historical Commission (HC) presented a proposed update to the township's historic resource survey. This survey is updated every ten years.
- The PC continues working with the Brandywine Conservancy regarding potential changes to the zoning ordinances targeted toward improving the protection of specimen trees and riparian buffers and to introduce regulations for medical marijuana dispensaries and growers/processors. On October 29th, 2024, a public meeting was held to inform the public of new and updated ordinances.
- 2025 Planning Commission Election of Officers:
Chair- Dennis Smith
Vice-Chair- Kay Ellsworth
Secretary- George Trammell
- Corinne Murphy resigned her position on the PC at year end 2024. We wish to thank Corinne for her service and contributions.

All township residents are welcome to attend Planning Commission meetings which are scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month at 5:30 PM in the Township Building. •

The 250th Anniversary is Coming!

On July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond. America 250 PA Chester County (CC250) commemorates our nation's 250th anniversary with interactive, inclusive experiences in our community throughout 2026.

We invite you to join us to explore Chester County's role in American history and consider how we can continue to build a more perfect union for all. We encourage all to be involved, to make this a true celebration and commemoration by We The People. For more info, to join forums and zoom sessions for the County, sign up for e-mail notices, &/or to take the partnership pledge, visit america250chesco.org. Please feel free to contact the Pennsbury Historical Commission if you would like to be included in the local conversations. •



2024 Pennsbury Land Trust Community Naturalists Education Series

Be inspired by the beauty and value of our native plants and learn how to add them to your own landscape using environmentally friendly techniques. All programs taught by experienced biologists and horticulturists.

This series is Free but registration required as space is limited. To register for a program, call 610-388-7323 and leave a name, email and/or phone contact. Wear sturdy walking shoes. Meet at the rear of the Pennsbury Township Building unless otherwise noted in program description.

WILDFLOWERS AND MILLS ON THE SUSQUEHANNA

Wednesday, April 23 • 9am–3pm • Rain date: Fri. April 25
(Register by April 18)

As the mighty Susquehanna River created rich, sheltered habitats for a wealth of wildflowers and wildlife, it also provided waterpower for mills and transportation. Walk among drifts of Dutchman's breeches, Bluebells, Toothwort, and Trillium while watching for eagles and migrating songbirds. Bring lunch, beverage, and binoculars if you have them and wear sturdy shoes. Meet at the Pennsbury Township Building to carpool the easy 1 hour drive to Susquehanna State Park, MD. If you prefer to meet us at the park please note that when registering.

MINI BACKYARD CONSERVATION HABITATS

Saturday, June 7 • 10–11:30am (Register by June 3)

Learn how to install a small, inexpensive, family-friendly backyard habitat that will enhance your property's ecological value. Tiny rain gardens, mini wildlife habitats, small pollinator gardens and miniature wildflower plots can provide hours of viewing pleasure and excitement for the whole family.

LATE SUMMER NATIVE MEADOW WILDFLOWERS

Saturday, September 6 • 9–11:30am • Rain date: Sat. Sept. 13
Register by September 2

Carpool to a nearby Pennsbury wildflower meadow to see some of our most beautiful and easily-grown native wildflowers in a naturalistic setting. Walk through a tapestry of Asters, Black-eyed Susans, and golden grasses. Learn about their growing requirements, companion plants and uses. Take home a free native plant and ideas for your own property. •

Tax Bills

Township tax bills have been sent out by Berkheimer Assoc. March 1st. If you have not received your bill, please call them at **610-599-3143**. Please note there is a **FREE SELF-SERVICE OPTION** on their website. The County Tax Bill was sent out early January and the School Tax Bill will be mailed by the school district around July 1st. There is an Earned Income Tax of 0.312% in Pennsbury that is collected by Keystone Collections.

For online filing, the quick and easy system allows taxpayers to minimize the time required to file a return. 43% of online filers completed their transaction in under 5 minutes. This cumulative percentage jumps to 67% when completing online filing in less than 10 minutes. **www.keystonecollects.com** Any questions please call them at **888-328-0565**. •

Large Item Disposal

Thursday, May 1 (6:30am–2:30pm)
Friday, May 2 (6:30am–2:30pm)
Saturday, May 3 (9am–1pm)

Large item disposal for Pennsbury Township residents ONLY, proof of residency may be required. The dumpster will be located near the maintenance garage and will be manned by Township personnel.

NO HAZARDOUS-MATERIALS OR ELECTRONICS. The following charges will apply: (cash or check made out to Pennsbury Township.)

\$3.00 for Each Car Tire
\$15.00 for Each Truck and/or Tractor Tire
\$12.00 AC / Refrigerator

Roadside Clean Up Day

Saturday, May 3

This is a good project for neighborhood groups to clean up the roadside around their homes. It also is a great way for high school students to acquire community service hours. Vests, gloves and bags can be picked-up at the Township Building. Filled trash bags, if left on the roadside, will be picked up by the road crew. Call Patrick Yerkes, Road Master at **610-388-9180** to leave your location and request supplies.

2024 Audit

Township audit is complete. Barbacane Thornton, CPA performed the audit with input from our elected auditors. Township tax remains at 1.49 mils and has not changed for many years. The earned income tax rate is the same at .312% and is collected by Keystone Collections. You should have received your township tax bill at the beginning of March. If you have not, please call the Tax Collector Berkheimer Assoc. **866-309-6939**. The Township Budget for 2025 was adopted in December 2024 and is posted on the township website **www.pennsbury.pa.us** under township government.

Bamboo

Bamboo has increasingly been a serious problem during storm events blocking roadways and causing a hazard to the travelling public. BAMBOO is a noxious weed and should NOT BE PLANTED near the road. Even if it is out of the township right of way, the shoots are so long that they bend over into the road and cause problems. Property owners MUST cut back the weeds and clear the road. If this is not done the road crew may have to cut it back.

Restrictions on Open Burning

Pennsbury Township discourages open burning, but if you must the following restrictions apply. **If township receives a complaint, the burning MUST STOP immediately. It cannot start up again!** Zoning Ordinance 162-1911, sets strict limitations on open burning.

- Open burning of anything other than leaves and small branches is strictly prohibited at all times. There shall be no emission of smoke, ash, dust, fumes, vapors, gases, or other matter toxic or noxious to air which violates the Pennsylvania Air Pollution Control Laws.
- Open burning of leaves and small branches is prohibited:
 - » On weekends and Holidays at any time
 - » On weekdays between 4:00PM and 9:00AM
- Therefore, open burning of leaves and small branches may only be legally conducted during weekdays from 9:00AM to 4:00PM at which time the fire shall be fully extinguished.
- Before any legal open burning is conducted, the Longwood Fire Company must be informed and the fire must comply with all fire department requirements. Approval by Longwood Fire Co is necessary, but not sufficient. The Township regulations must be adhered to regardless of Longwood Fire Co approval.
- Also, Township notices regarding leaf and branch pickup carry the underlying ordinance restriction regarding open burning.
- Please be good neighbors and comply with the Township open burning regulations.



Li-ion Battery Fires Unfairly Cost Trash & Recycling Operators Over \$1.2 B/yr.



Lithium batteries range in size, but they are powerful. Lithium is a very reactive element and when damaged, can pose fire and explosion risks (even if it may be a "dead" battery).

Sometimes trash truck drivers do not notice the fire before it is too late, and the only response would be to exit the vehicle. When this happens, the truck driver's life is in serious jeopardy as well as the lives of others on the road, and your property. Landfill operators and recycling processing facilities staff can also be in danger when lithium batteries are placed in trash OR recycling bins.

NEVER PUT RECHARGEABLE & LITHIUM BATTERIES IN YOUR TRASH OR RECYCLING BIN!

PLEASE bring your rechargeable and lithium batteries to a Household Hazardous Waste event.

Register online:

www.chestercountyswa.org/121/UpcomingHousehold-Hazardous-Waste-Event

Lithium Battery Safety Tips:

DO ✓	DO NOT ⚡
Keep batteries and devices stored at room temperature.	Charge a device under your pillow, on your bed, or on a couch.
Store batteries away from anything flammable.	Charge a device unattended.
Always use the manufacturers charging cord to charge the battery or device.	Place loose batteries in drawers or containers that contain other metal objects (coins, paper clips, screws).
Watch for signs of failure – overheating, discoloration, swelling, odor.	Place in direct sunlight or leave in a hot vehicle.
Bring battery to a Household Hazardous Waste collection event or check the Call2Recycle website to find a drop off location closest to you: www.call2recycle.org/locator	DO NOT place lithium batteries in your household trash or recycling containers.

If your battery is leaking or bulging, place it in a metal or non-flammable container and surround it with sand or kitty litter. Bring it to a Household Hazardous Waste collection event or check the Call2Recycle website.

What's New in Fire and EMS?

Longwood, Po-Mar-Lin, and Kennett Fire Companies have been busy training and responding to emergency incidents in East Marlborough Township and the surrounding area. Through regional collaboration, the companies are working toward standardized operations and consistent staffing levels to ensure that our communities are receiving the very best service possible while maintaining their own organizational identities.

From January to March 30th, Longwood Fire Company has responded to 119 EMS calls and 42 Fire calls within Pennsbury township. Longwood Fire Company is a

combination fire department that uses both career and volunteer members for fire response and an all-career EMS staff.

What is the Kennett Fire and EMS Regional Commission?

The Kennett Fire and EMS Regional Commission is a quasi-governmental body established through an inter-municipal agreement between the Townships of East Marlborough, Kennett, Newlin, Pennsbury and Pocopson. It works together collaboratively to pool resources (funding) in a way that makes sense for the municipalities as well as the service providers. Our community is extremely

fortunate to have elected and appointed officials from Pennsbury Township that support first responder organizations. These officials dedicate a great deal of time to understanding the industry and working collaboratively with their first responders to solve problems together in the safest, most effective ways for the community and the first responders who risk their lives every day to serve and protect the region.

We thank you for your continued support and encourage anyone who is interested in donating, volunteering or learning more to reach out to Longwood Fire Company at gratliff@longwoodfireco.com.

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) is Special— Let's be Safe!

Patti Lynn, Recycling Resources Manager, CCSWA

If you are Trash Smart, then you know that household hazardous waste (HHW) includes the old gasoline, pesticides, chemicals, and batteries that accumulate in our basements, sheds, and garages. These materials need to be handled differently than other trash and recyclables in our homes, for the safety of people and our environment. “Hiding” hazardous materials in trash and recycling can be especially dangerous!

Chester County is home to two landfills, Lanchester and SECCRA. Neither can accept hazardous waste. So, what to do? Register for a HHW event. Bring items such as fluorescent bulbs, rechargeable batteries, oil-based paint and solvents, gasoline, pool chemicals, and pesticides to a regional household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event. Chester County participates in this program with Bucks, Delaware, Montgomery, and Philadelphia counties.

- Residents of any of these five counties can use the HHW program in any of these five counties.
- In Chester County, you must register online, www.chestercountyswa.org, for a drive-through event. Registering helps us manage capacity, supplies, and staffing needs. And it reduces wait times for the public.

Nearly 200,000 pounds of materials are safely managed through this program annually. If you are planning to move or clean out a home, make a plan for your HHW NOW! If in doubt, check it out! Stay safe and stay Trash Smart! •

Pennsbury Park

Located in back of the Township Building, Pennsbury's 54 acre park and the adjacent 25 acres abutting Route 1 are a great place for walking, picnicking and bird-watching. Trails are kept mowed and there are tables and benches scattered about the area. Park is open from morning till dusk and closed every Monday for maintenance. Bark Park is along the eastern border. There is a separate area for large dogs and small dogs.

PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES:

- ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH unless you are in the dog park. Dogs are let out of cars without a leash and run into the park. Complaints have been received. As a rule, dog owners are very good at observing leash laws and we really do appreciate that.
- Hunting, Fishing
- Consuming alcoholic beverages
- Operating motor vehicles beyond parking areas
- Riding bikes in woods or wet areas
- Starting fires except in grills in picnic area
- Littering
- Swimming, Ice skating, Boating
- Climbing fences
- Cutting trees

ALLOWED ACTIVITIES:

- Walk or jog
- Bike in grassy field areas
- Play Frisbee, Ski/Cross-Country
- Picnic
- Study nature
- Play sports. Organized sports require permission of the Township Manager
- Train your dog. Dogs must be on a leash.
- Join the Park Stewards Volunteers
- Make suggestions
- Have fun safely with respect for nature and your neighbor.

2025 Hazardous Household Waste Events

WE DO NOT ACCEPT HAZARDOUS WASTE AT LANCHESTER LANDFILL. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR EACH EVENT!

REGISTRATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE A FEW WEEKS BEFORE EACH EVENT.

Saturday, April 12, 2025 - Phoenixville

Friday, June 20, 2025 - Coatesville

Saturday, August 23, 2025 - Oxford

Saturday, October 5, 2024 - Downingtown

You MUST Register for the event. Scan QR code here or go to the County Solid Waste Authority website, www.chestercountyswa.org, to register or for further details on the upcoming Chester County HHW collection events and for a full list of accepted and not accepted materials.



Emergency Management Coordinator Update

Hello residents! My name is Michael Pisano, I am the Emergency Management Coordinator for Pennsbury Township. I come to you with over a decade of experience in Emergency Services in Chester County, and I am pleased to serve each of you. With spring rapidly approaching, please remember these safety tips to keep you and your loved ones out of harm's way! When conducting your spring cleaning keep the following in mind, and, as always, it is important to save the National Poison Control Center (800) 222-1222 in your phone.

- Keep poisons in original containers, away from food.
- Read and follow product instructions carefully.
- Never mix chemicals to avoid harmful gases.
- Use ventilation when using strong chemicals.
- Direct spray away from people and pets.
- Don't sniff containers; discard old products.
- Be cautious with windshield wiper fluid—it's poisonous if swallowed.

Be ready for any emergency! Please visit **Ready.PA.gov** for some amazing resources to prepare your households for unexpected emergencies.

Road Department Report

The following roads will be oil & chipped as well as fog seal this summer:

- Whitestone Lane
- Graychal Lane
- Raven Lane
- Cheryl Lane
- Parkersville Rd
- Chadds Ford Knoll

Please remember to NOT PLANT or place anything (boulders/rocks etc) in the right of way along a public road. This is a hazard to the traveling public as well as hinders township ability to repair roads. You may be asked to remove them out of the right of way if they pose a problem.

Driveway Permits are REQUIRED for Resurfacing Your Driveway

These can be obtained on line at www.pennsbury.pa.us or call the office at 610-388-7323. Permits are NOT needed for sealcoating your driveway—only for resurfacing. The Road Department can be very helpful in advising you on what to consider when planning for your driveway upgrade. You can call them at 610-388-9180. Too many driveways are done with minimal materials and fall apart quickly. THE HOMEOWNER IS RESPONSIBLE for obtaining the permit BEFORE the work is done. Failure to do so may result in a fine.

Unionville-Chadds Ford School District Updates

The District recently completed a feasibility study for improvements to Patton Middle School. This comprehensive study carefully evaluated various options for enhancing our facilities. The project will now advance to the Design Phase, which involves creating detailed plans and specifications, including architectural design, functionality, and material selection, to translate the project's vision into a tangible blueprint for a new middle school with more specific costs and timelines.

Beginning in the fall of 2025, the district will implement full-day Kindergarten across all elementary schools. Please note that Kindergarten students must have attained the age of five (5) years on or before September 1st of the year of enrollment. Registration for the upcoming school year is currently open and we encourage families to enroll eligible children as soon as possible.

After 18 years of dedicated service to our district, 14 as Superintendent, Dr. John Sanville has announced his retirement. The School Board has initiated the search for his successor and invites community involvement in this important process. For timelines and opportunities to provide input, please visit the dedicated section at the bottom of the **UCFSD.org** website.

Lastly, we encourage residents without children currently attending our six schools to stay informed about district news and events by signing up for our email list using the QR code. •



EVENTS

CHARLES F. PATTON MIDDLE SCHOOL PTO CARNIVAL

Friday, May 2 from 3:00 to 7:30 p.m. • Charles F. Patton Middle School

Get ready for an unforgettable evening of games, prizes, food and fun—all while supporting our middle school! Every ticket, every game and every snack purchased helps fund vital programs and special events for our students. Come for the fun—stay for the impact!

UNIONVILLE HIGH SCHOOL ANNE FRANK EXHIBIT

Thursday, May 15 at 5:45, 6:30, 7:15 or 8:00 p.m. • Unionville High School

The international exhibition "Anne Frank – a history for today," the story of Anne Frank against the background of the Holocaust and the Second World War, has travelled all over the world, and for a short period of time it will be hosted at Unionville High School (UHS). On Thursday, May 15, UHS is opening its doors to tours for the community at 5:45, 6:30, 7:15, and 8:00 p.m. **Register to join a tour at bit.ly/UHSAnneFrankExhibit**

UCFSD KINDNESS MUSIC FEST

Tuesday, May 20 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. • Unionville High School

Join us for an evening of live music, food and fun as we celebrate a year of kindness in our schools and community! This free, family-friendly festival will feature performances from local musicians, student groups, and special guests—all in the spirit of unity and kindness! **Learn more by visiting bit.ly/KindnessMusicFest**

Spring Programs & Events at Kennett Library

Kennett Library is stepping into a new season with a calendar full of programs and activities through the end of May. This season, the library will feature programs that inspire exploration, creativity, and conversation. Chris Manna, Executive Director, said, “As we continue to dig deeper into our community feedback, our spring programming reflects more and more of our collective interests. Arts and Culture dot the season with exciting events like Open Mic Poetry Night, our monthly art gallery exhibitions, Conversations Between Writers, and Día del Niño. We hope you see our broadening palette of programs.”



HIGHLIGHTED PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

BETTER ON THE BIG SCREEN • Select Mondays at 6 pm, Auditorium, The Friends of Kennett Library presents some of the best American films with this monthly movie series.

OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT • April 24th, 6 pm to 8 pm, Auditorium, Celebrate National Poetry Month at the library with an open mic. Bring your favorite poems to read or just listen to.



¡DÍA DEL NIÑO! • April 30th, 10 am, Children's Area, Happy Children's Day! Celebrate with us during a special bilingual story time and craft. Kids will learn about the history of Children's Day and leave with a goodie bag.

MAKER, MEET CRICUT • April 14th, May 12th, 3:30 pm, Community Makerspace, This series will cover all of the basics you need to know for your first foray into designing and cutting thin materials with our Cricut Venture, including sourcing vector graphics, how to get started with your designs, using Cricut Design Space, and how to rely on our friendly makerspace staff as a resource.

WATER/ROOTS • April 15th, May 20th, 7 pm, Auditorium, In our 2025 Environmental Lecture Series, we will investigate aspects of water in our daily lives and beyond. Invited speakers will share innovative research, creative educational programs, and solutions to establish healthy watersheds and explore our deeper relationship with water.

Lou Florence, Collection Development, said, “The world is waking up to the spring season and asks us to remember to flourish, not flounder. The library is here to give you a place to grow to your full potential, be among people who create a favorable (safe, friendly, open to all) environment, and share and support each other in creating.”

The Kennett Library strives to offer a little something for everyone, and this is just a brief overview of what's to come this season. To learn more about these programs and more, please stop by the library and pick up our programs and happenings magazine From The Desk of Alice or visit the online programs calendar (Scan QR Code).



The John Hope House Today: Beautiful?

Margo Leach, NCARB, Township Representative for the John Hope House Restoration

It depends on who you ask. The architect for the project, John Milner FAIA, and I were delighted by the shape the Hope House started to take on after the recent demolition of the wood-frame addition.¹ “Beautiful!” we said. “It’s starting to look like it did in its heyday!” The Township’s reaction, however, was quite the opposite, “What a mess!” Upon hearing that, I took off my architect-lenses and could see that indeed, it looked quite ragged. The partially peeling stucco made the stone look like it was never meant to be exposed (which is not the case.) Large patches of brick infill under the windows where the stone was removed to fit radiators inside, were now visible. Little bits of stone around the windows could be seen where the original stone openings were

reduced to fit replacement windows. The temporary wood safety fence around the open basement of the addition added to the hodgepodge appearance.

In the next year, the property will be restored to its original beauty. The roof has already been replaced with new cedar shakes and historically accurate cornice and rake board moldings. John Milner Architects, Inc. is preparing drawings and specifications for Phase 2: restoration of the facades. The stucco will be removed, and the stone cleaned. The patched brick infill will be removed and replaced with salvaged stone. Window openings will be enlarged/restored to their original size and new windows, shutters and doors installed. New pointing will be done in keeping with the



precise profile of the original pointing, a tiny sample of which was found by the architect during the investigations of the original construction. •

¹ The wood-frame portion was added an estimated 90 years after the original house. It was greatly altered and, unlike the stone house, in very poor condition. It would have been prohibitively expensive to renovate and maintain.



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP

EST. 1770

702 Baltimore Pike
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

Phone: 610-388-7323

Fax: 610-388-6036

Web: www.pennsbury.pa.us

Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday:
8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP DIRECTORY 2025

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

(elected 6 yr term)

Meets 3rd Wednesday of
every month at 7:00pm

Wendell Fenton, *Vice Chair*
(term ends 2029)
610-388-6861

Aaron McIntyre, *Chair*
(term ends 2027)
610-505-3002

Kay Ellsworth
(term ends 2025)
914-424-1463

TOWNSHIP STAFF

Dan Boyle
Township Manager
610-388-7323

Christina Church
Office Staff

Barbara Biedekapp
Financial Director

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

Russell Drumheller
610-388-1790

SOLICITOR

Tom Oeste, Esq.
610-436-4400 ext. 1550

TOWNSHIP ENGINEER

Matthew Houtmann
610-565-6363

ROAD CREW

Patrick Yerkes, *Road Master*
610-388-9180

Andrew Decker
Michael Quinn
Wayne Winters

CONSTABLE

(elected 6-year term)

David E. Cox
610-637-5621

TOWNSHIP AUDITORS

(elected 6 year term)

Patrick Barron
Adelaide Jones

ZONING HEARING BOARD

Greg McCauley
Ed Foley, Attorney
James Porter
Bill Talman
Alternate - Greg Williams
Alternate - David MacMain

VACANCY BOARD

Robert Luft

HISTORIC COMMISSION

Joan Gummey
Lynn Luft
Eileen Mallouk
Brenda Mendenhall
Susan Williams
Judi Wilson
Russell Drumheller

PLANNING COMMISSION

Meets 2nd Wednesday of
every month at 5:30pm

Dennis Smith - *Chairman*
Kay Ellsworth - *Vice Chair*
George Trammell - *Secretary*
Mike Clements
Alan Matas
Karen Meloney

SECCRA & RECYCLING

Will Sappington

RT 52 SCENIC BYWAY COMMITTEE

Vacant

KENNETT LIBRARY BOARD

Barbara Necarsulmer
Todd Bruce

COMPUTER ASSISTANT

Gary Summers

ANIMAL CONTROL

Brandywine Valley SPCA
610-692-6113

STATE POLICE

Avondale Barracks
(non emergency)
610-268-2022

TO REPORT ROAD KILL

On U.S. 1 (PennDot):
484-340-3200

All other roads
(PA Game Commission):
610-926-3136, prompt #0

UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES, DISTRICT C (elected 4 year term)

Jody Allen
Brian Schartz
Erin Talbert
District Office: 610-347-0970

ELECTED FEDERAL AND STATE REPRESENTATIVES

U.S. Senators:

Dave McCormick
SD-B40C Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-6324
www.mccormick.senate.gov

John Fetterman
320 Market St, Suite 475E,
Harrisburg, PA 17101
717 782-3951
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U.S. House of Representatives District 6:
Chrissy Houlahan
709 E Gay St., West Chester, PA 19389
610-883-5050
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PA Senator District 9: John Kane
717-756-1548
610-436-3320

PA House of Representatives
District 160: Craig Williams
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