



PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP NEWS

Summer 2020
Vol 33, No. 3

www.pennsbury.pa.us

COVID-19 Impact on Pennsbury Township

On March 17, 2020 the Township supervisors signed a Declaration of Disaster Emergency. This action, subsequently ratified at a public meeting on March 26, was consistent with actions taken by the State and Chester County in response to the covid-19 pandemic. The effect was to close the Township office to the public and to cancel all in person meetings.

Kathleen Howley, Township manager, continued to follow State and County emails to determine how Township business should be conducted. The State considered local government in a special category, authorized to determine which of its activities were "essential" and which were "non-essential."

Initially the road crew was furloughed with pay for two weeks. but kept on call for emergencies. Dave Allen came in daily to check messages and to make sure that no problems had arisen which needed immediate attention. After this period the road crew came back to work to maintain the Township roads — bank mowing, tree trimming — and to prepare for summer repaving. Each morning tem-

peratures are taken, masks donned, gloves worn and social distancing practiced. For example to go to a work site, each man drove in a different vehicle.

Supervisors and other meetings were held by teleconference, Many requests for action better considered at physical meetings were postponed. Indeed the Pennsylvania legislature adopted legislation extending statutory time periods for the duration of the emergency. Conditional Use and Zoning Hearing Board hearings were all postponed,

The County supplied the Township with face masks, gloves, hand sanitizer and other supplies. When the Township offices reopen for business at a time recommended by State and County authorities, these will be required at all meetings.

The Township Park was not closed and has been used extensively by residents for walking their dogs and themselves. Users acted responsibly so there was no necessity to close the Park.

It is expected that the shelter in place directive will be terminated on June 5. At that time the Township will reopen — cautiously and prudently!



Unionville-Chadds Ford School District News

John Murphy, Representative

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the 2019-2020 school year will have ended. It was certainly not the school year that we had planned for or expected just a few months ago. I would like to thank the administration and the staff and faculty for their flexibility and ability to quickly adjust to a distance learning model in March when we were required to close the

schools. I would also like to thank the district's parents for their flexibility as well as they took on the additional role of home schooling their children.

Please extend a hearty congratulations to the Unionville High School class of 2020. Their senior year did not go as planned but hopefully conditions will allow us to send them off in person in July with the prom, senior awards ceremony and graduation scheduled at the high school.

At this time it is not clear what the next school year will look like. There are indications from Harrisburg that schools will physically open in the fall but there may be additional accommodations made to ensure

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PENNSBURY TOWNSHIP
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Office Hours:
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Monday — Thursday
Kathleen Howley, Twp. Manager

SUPERVISORS
Wendell Fenton, Chair
Aaron McIntyre, Vice Chair
Dan Boyle



❖ **SUMMER ROAD WORK**

Roads that will be oil/chipped/fog sealed this summer are Kintera Court, Ballintree Lane, Waterglen Drive and Circle and Chandler Road.

There are a number of pipe replacement projects that also are scheduled.

Please remember to keep all plantings and trees trimmed back out of the roadway. Nothing should be planted in the right of way.

Please remember to slow down and obey the work zone signs posted. There have been some close calls while the men are trying to do their job.

❖ **WARM WEATHER**

Nice weather always brings out walkers and bikers but the covid-19

pandemic has altered everyone's life and will continue to do so until we get a vaccine. One thing that has changed is more people walking the roads and using the Township park.

Please share the road and be aware of people walking. Walkers should always walk **against traffic** so you can see cars coming and step off the road if they are going too fast.

❖ **RECYCLING DUMPSTERS**

There continues to be illegal dumping at the dumpsters in the parking lot.

We ask that if anyone sees this happening, take down the license plate of the vehicle and report it to

the state police or the township office. We will pursue enforcement of the law.. The majority of people do the right thing and we thank you for that. Locks have been placed on the lids to keep more of this from happening. Bags of "Yard waste" were put into the bins which is illegal and spoils the whole load. **EVERYTHING HAD TO BE DUMPED IN THE LANDFILL.** Thank you for your continued support of recycling in our community

❖ **CONTROL YOUR STORMWATER**

Help control stormwater runoff on your property: redirect downspouts, use a rain barrel, plant trees, use pervious pavers.

Pennsbury Township Chester County, Pennsylvania Summary Financial Statement For the Year ended December 31, 2019	
This presentation is published in accordance with Section 904 of the Township Code. A complete copy of the audit report for the year ended December 31, 2019 is on file and available for inspections at the Township office.	
Total Assets	\$ 5,655,007
Total Liabilities	193,282
Tota; Fund Equity	<u>\$ 5,461,725</u>
Total Revenues and Other Financing Sources	\$ 2,628,606
Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses	<u>2,444,975</u>
Change in Fund Equity	<u>\$ 183,631</u>

Unionville-Chadds Ford School District News

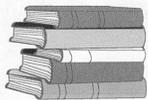
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the safety of our community. The administration is conducting contingency planning so that we are ready when the appropriate guidelines are published.

At the June 15th School Board meeting, we will vote on the budget for the 2020-2021 school year. In consideration of the adverse economic impact of the quarantine, the school board will pass a budget that will not raise taxes (due to the 2 county tax allocation Pennsbury residents will see a small decrease while Chadds Ford residents will see a small increase). We did this through the use of some distance learning savings, freezing open positions and the use of reserve funds.

I want to close by again thanking the district's families for their resilience during the last 3 months. I know that distance learning and social distancing has been a challenge for some children. Please know that their teachers are looking forward to seeing them in the classrooms as soon as permitted.

As always, visit ucfsd.org to keep up with the district or connect with one of the many social media accounts.



Kennett Library News

The Kennett Library continued to serve the Kennett Community during the pandemic shutdown with access to e-books and online programming. In addition, the library provided over 2,500 books to the community right outside their front door. Staff "weeded" their book collection, took some of the older ones, packed them in a bag ac-

cording to genre and age group, stapled the bags shut and set the bags on their doorstep on nice sunny days. Bags were gone almost as soon as they were put out.

While the Library was working on serving the community during the pandemic the Board of Trustees were hard at work finalizing plans for the new library. The new Kennett Library will be a transformational project for our community and will welcome everyone, regardless of age, race or income with the opportunity to access information, learn and grow.

Historic Resource Owners Celebrate 1st Anniversary!



Veterinary Dentistry Specialists recently celebrated its first anniversary. Dr. John Lewis purchased the three building property located at 455 Old Baltimore Pike in 2018, and submitted plans in early 2019, to Pennsbury Township and the Historical Commission.

According to Dr. Lewis, he and his wife were looking for a property with both residential and commercial opportunities in an area with good school districts. As soon as they walked into the renovated nineteenth century barn, he said, "We fell in love with it." Educated at Penn, where he also taught, Dr. Lewis had been commuting to a large practice in New Jersey from the Philadelphia area for several years.

The previous winery owner had coordinated an impressive renovation of the barn into a multi-level facility with a kitchen in 2014. The only interior changes needed for the structure were related to the needs of a medical facility. Permits were obtained to make the necessary adaptations, which included safe outdoor fenced areas at the barn clinic for canine patients, and at the Victorian residence on the property for children and family pets, where Dr. and Mrs. Lewis have lived since June, 2019.

The Township also gave conditional approval for conversion of the two and one half story frame business office to its original function, a house which was listed in the 1883 Breou's Chester County Atlas as the R. M. Richie property. The residence will require some interior renovations as the children grow, and exterior painting eventually. For now, Dr. and Mrs. Lewis are simply enjoying having his practice next door to their home and family.

Services provided at Veterinary Dentistry Specialists include dental cleanings, oral surgery, dental X-rays, CT scans of the head and neck, oral surgical oncology, endodontics, treatment of maxillofacial trauma such as jaw



Planning Commission Update

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

Due to covid-19 restrictions, the PC limited meetings and other activities. We did hold a virtual work session using GoToMeeting and a PC meeting using OpenVoice. As the township advances with the reopening process in June, I believe the PC will benefit from our recent virtual sessions and assess further opportunities to use technology to support the township's planning needs.

The PC was asked by the Board of Supervisors to consider how to best amend the current Zoning Ordinance on solar energy in ways that make it more attractive for residents to consider solar energy applications without having to apply through a conditional use hearing. PC member, Mike Clements is leading this project. An in-person workshop session and a virtual workshop session have been held and we will hold additional sessions to address this topic and develop our recommendations to the BoS.

Using OpenVoice, we held a meeting on May 26 during which we reviewed a Zoning Hearing Board Application from Janet Zelby for her property at 1349 Hillendale Rd. and recommended that it be supported by the Supervisors. We also reviewed a solar installation conditional use application from Mr. and Mrs. Mortavazi for their property at 26 Colonial Drive and recommended that the Supervisors approve their application.

All township residents are welcome to attend Planning Commission meetings which are scheduled for the fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:30 at the Township Building unless done virtual.

Dennis Smith, Chair

fractures, and titanium crown fabrication for police and working dogs. High risk anesthetic patients comprise a portion of the caseload. Dr. Bryce Dooley, a board certified anesthesiologist, creates individualized patient protocols.

While the dentistry practice operates on the main floor, the lower level of the barn is used as a continuing education center for veterinarians and health professionals, for "small batch" learning opportunities. The specialization of animal dentistry was formally recognized in the 1980's.

Dr. Lewis and his family are indeed welcome additions to the Pennsbury community. Congratulations to them on their first anniversary as township residents!

Lynn Luft, Historical Commission Chair



Pennsbury Township Calendar

COMMUNITY MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Supervisors usually meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in the Harris Room of the Township Building, however dates may change. For accuracy, call the Township or check the website.

Planning Commission meets the 4th Tuesday at 5:30 pm at the Township Building.

SCHOOL BOARD

Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board meetings begin at 7:30 pm. on the third Monday. Locations vary. More info at: www.ucfsd.org

NOTE: Dates and times of events may change on short notice. Please check out web sites or call the Township at 388 - 7323

AUGUST

29 Sat, 9 am - 3 pm — **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (no e-waste)** Oxford School District Admin. Bldg., 125 Bell Tower Lane, Oxford

SEPTEMBER

14, 15 Sat, Sun — **CHADDS FORD DAYS** Cancelled

UNIONVILLE COMMUNITY FAIR
Cancelled for 2020

OCTOBER

10 Sat, 9 am - 3 pm — **HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION (no e-waste)** Government Services Center, 601 Westtown Road, West Chester

19 Mon — **LAST DAY TO REGISTER BEFORE THE NOVEMBER ELECTION**

27 Tues — **LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE SBLLOT**

sara corbishley, editor

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