



Penn Township

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER





"Penn Township - A great place to live, work, and retire!"

VISION STATEMENT

"To provide a healthy, vibrant, affordable, economically successful, progressive community where citizens feel safe, enjoy their neighborhoods and access to their local government and have a great place to live, work and raise their families or retire."

MISSION STATEMENT

"To facilitate the health, safety and well-being of the Penn Township community by providing residents, visitors and the business community with the highest quality of municipal leadership, municipal service and strategic, sustainable, effective and visionary planning in order to enhance the quality of life for all."

**Penn Township,
Chester County, PA
260 Lewis Road
West Grove, PA 19390**

**Phone: 610-869-9620
Fax: 610-869-9194
Email: office@penn township.us
www.penn township.us**

**Hours:
Mon-Thurs 8:00am - 4:00pm
Closed Fridays
*Appointments available***

Penn Township Public Access Information Channels: FIOS/Verizon Channel 36 & Comcast Xfinity Channel 966

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- Victor Mantegna**, BOARD CHAIR
- William "Radar" O'Connell**, VICE CHAIR
- Curtis A. Mason, Sr.**, MEMBER
- Jay Ennis**, MEMBER
- Laura Sperratore**, MEMBER

Board of Supervisors meetings are the first Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Work Sessions are held on the third Wednesday of January, February, March, September, and October at 6:00 p.m.

Agenda deadline is the Thursday before each meeting at noon. Agendas are posted at least 24 hours before meetings.

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

- Kathy Wandersee**, CHAIR
- Scott Steele**, VICE CHAIR
- Larry Waltman**
- Margaret Emerson**
- Patricia Horrocks**
- Patricia Moidel**
- Raymond Mackey**
- Robert Davis**

STATE SENATOR

Carolyn Comitta

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

John Lawrence

ROADMASTER

Karen Versuk 302-690-6245

DISTRICT COURT 15-3-05

Honorable Scott Massey

AVON GROVE

SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Jeff Billig, Tracy Lisi,

Rick Dumont

EMERGENCIES

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Chuck Freese

AGREM REPRESENTATIVE

Chuck Freese

FIRE COMPANY

West Grove Fire Dept. & Ambulance Division

PARAMEDICS Medic 94

POLICE PA State Police - 911

TOWNSHIP STAFF

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS/ PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Karen Versuk

TREASURER

Lisa Myers

TOWNSHIP SECRETARY/RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER/EVENTS

Caitlin Ianni

BUILDING PERMITS COORDINATOR/ ZONING LIAISON

Amber McEwing

PARKS AND FACILITIES TECHNICIANS

Danny Peters, Guy Swift

OFFICE INTERNS

**Mariana Aguilera, Kailey Mitchell,
Keira Mitchell**

PLANNING COMMISSION

Scott Steele, CHAIR

Ralph Churchill, VICE CHAIR

Bill Wells, MEMBER

Bruce Van Kleeck, MEMBER

J. Dennis Newbold, SECRETARY

Meetings are the fourth Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm.

Learning to dance in the rain

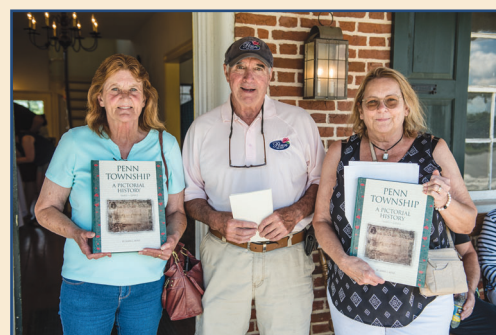


Fall 2022, Penn Township, Chester County, PA
by the Penn Township Supervisors

Our region has been no stranger to challenges in the past few years. Pandemic, some catastrophic storms, and most recently the devastating loss of our Jennersville Hospital. Nevertheless, when life gives us storms, our township has learned to dance in the rain.

In an effort to navigate the storm clouds and puddles, our community has banded together like no time in recent history. We navigated pandemic with a strong emergency management response, thanks in no small part to our Emergency Management Coordinator, Chuck Freese, who kept the supply chain rolling for our community.

In the two years since the pandemic began, we were able to keep our passive park open for use, but also managed to create useable new space in our Sports Park. Thanks to the E. Kneale Dockstader Foundation and a number of diligent and driven Eagle Scouts, a greenspace with a mile of walking trail, dog-friendly, and the region's only outdoor environmental center and classroom



emerged. This fall, the region's first StoryWalk will also be open in the coming weeks. The Avon Grove Library and Penn staff have already planned a book per month for your reading pleasure.

While supply chain and cost issues have slightly delayed the big plans for the Sports Park, (yes, it is coming!), we have made some strategic decisions to hold off on bidding until later this year in hopes of lower gas prices and increased supply.

Continued on Page 4



Learning to dance in the rain



Continued from Page 3

Since September's grim announcement by Tower Health and the subsequent closure of the Jennersville Hospital, the Board and staff along with State Rep. John Lawrence, State Senator Carolyn Comitta, and the Chester County Commissioners, worked diligently and constantly to find a buyer for the hospital. We received that wonderful news that ChristianaCare has purchased Jennersville Hospital in July. Since then, the Board has had warm and productive discussions with the leadership of ChristianaCare and the hospital now has a new name, ChristianaCare – West Grove Campus. While a reopening plan is still in development, we know it is coming and a familiar organization we trust is taking the helm. Sometimes that rain cloud gives you a rainbow.

During this time of uncertainty, we provided a respite space for Medic 94 and lent a hand in planning for a permanent space for them.

This fall, we are welcoming the Avon Grove High School to our community, on a huge 124-acre campus in the heart of Jennersville. We also welcome the new Ryan Homes "Big Elk" community of 204 homes next to the hospital. Finally, Casa Carmen Winery is making Penn it's home as well, at the old Hood Farm on Baltimore Pike.

We continue to offer programming of historical, practical, recreational and social significance such as Red Rose Rent Day, Sunset Park Day, Sunny Day Camp, Red Rose tours, shredding days, movie nights, concerts and kids fun days, all free of charge to the community. This fall we will offer the Fall Festival on October 15th and a very special Winter Wonderland event on December 11th. We urge everyone to join us and enjoy!

As we begin to wind down 2022 and plan ahead for 2023, we continue our efforts to serve not just Penn but our whole Southern Chester County Community as we welcome the new ChristianaCare, Casa Carmen, Avon Grove High School and Big Elk to the neighborhood and continue to plan for a bright and prosperous future.

Respectfully submitted,
Board Chair Victor Mantegna,
Vice Chair Bill "Radar" O'Connell,
Supervisors Curtis A. Mason,
Sr., Jay Ennis and
Laura Sperratore



**This event was
made possible by:**

PLATINUM SPONSORS

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PENN TOWNSHIP

FALL FESTIVAL

12 PM - 4 PM

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2022

(RAIN DATE IS OCTOBER 16)

PENN TOWNSHIP PARK

260 LEWIS ROAD, WEST GROVE, PA 19390

GENERAL PARKING AT JENNERSVILLE HOSPITAL

1015 W. BALTIMORE PIKE, WEST GROVE, PA

HANDICAPPED PARKING AT THE PENN TOWNSHIP BUILDING

260 LEWIS ROAD, WEST GROVE, PA

**VENDORS - MUSIC - KIDS CARNIVAL GAMES - FOOD
CORN MAZE - TREATS - JUNGLE JOHN - FACE PAINTING
CHARACTER APPEARANCES - FIRST RESPONDERS
PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST - FALL PHOTO BOOTH
HALLOWEEN EGG HUNT @ 1:30 PM - & MORE!**

Donation Drive for KACS

*- Bring a donation item to the event to enter for a chance to win
tickets to Dutch Wonderland or Franklin Institute - 2 tickets per winner, 3 chances to win!*

Find more information and a list of donation items that are needed on our website.

For full event details, updates & more information visit

**www.penntownship.us, follow our Facebook page 'Penn Township, Chester County'
or contact our office at cianni@penntownship.us**

Casa Carmen Winery

Penn Township is excited to welcome our first vineyard, Casa Carmen, to the area.

Casa Carmen is run by the Pallares Family, Enrique and Felipe. Their family is from Ecuador, with Spanish and Portuguese heritage, which has influenced their wine, vermouth, and tapas. The Pallares grew up traveling and residing in many places such as Argentina, Spain, and California before ending up on the East Coast where they began their business.



They first started Casa Carmen Winery in 2017 in Chestertown, Maryland as a small wine and tapas bar. Due to its success, they were able to open the Wine Collective, which, according to Enrique Pallares, is “a full, state of the art, 12,000 sq ft. production facility and wine bar in Baltimore, MD.” Casa Carmen Farm and Vineyard is their latest project, based here in Penn Township.

The vineyard is located on historic Hoods Lane, the former manor owned by Letitia Penn (William Penn’s daughter). The entire Pallares family has joined our community by moving onto the Hood farm this past year. The first vineyard has already been planted, with the intention to add another in the next year. There will also be a field of botanicals and herbs that they hope to have planted by next spring.

Our community should expect a relaxing and tranquil place for everyone to gather and celebrate over authentic wine, vermouth, and tasting menu. Along with being able to enjoy the serene ambience of the Casa Carmen Farm, our community will be able to learn about and indulge on Spanish-style vermouth and dry, low intervention wines, as well as foods inspired by the Pallares heritage. All the wines are curated in a European tradition and made with all local ingredients. This will truly be a great place for families and friends to visit and for our entire community to connect with each other. Enrique says “Everything we do has the ultimate goal of getting people together, of having strangers become friends and friends become family. This is our home and way of life and we love sharing that with others.”

“I am very excited at continuing to push the frontiers of what can be done in this region in terms of making quality products sustainably, and sharing those with people around us. Stay tuned and hope to see everyone soon!” -Enrique Pallares

Follow Casa Carmen on social media to follow their journey and for updates on their plans to open Casa Carmen Farm and Vineyard.

Instagram and Facebook: [casacarmenwines](#) | Website: www.casacarmenwines.com





Fall UPDATE

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JOHN LAWRENCE

SERVING CHESTER & LANCASTER COUNTIES



Dear Neighbor,

As summer moves to the rearview mirror and a busy fall comes into focus, I want to provide an update on a few issues of interest to residents of Penn Township. Many, many folks have reached out to me about the future of Jennessville Hospital, and many more have asked for the latest on the situation with Chester Water Authority. Both of these issues have been front and center for me, and I am pleased to report that progress has been made on both fronts.

If you have questions or concerns on these items or other state-related issues, please give me a call at **610-869-1602**, or stop by my office in Jennessville. The office is located across from Jenner's Pond at 1 Commerce Blvd., Suite 200, West Grove.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your State Representative.

Jennessville Hospital **UPDATE**: ChristianaCare is Coming!

Tower Health's abrupt closure of Jennessville Hospital was an unexpected and devastating hit to our community. Ever since, my top priority has been to reopen the facility, with a focus on reopening the emergency room. For the past nine months, I have worked with a number of local stakeholders and other elected officials to make this a reality.

Earlier this summer, ChristianaCare announced that it had entered into a tentative agreement with Tower Health to acquire the former Jennessville Hospital site. ChristianaCare completed the purchase last month, acquiring the hospital facility and an adjacent parcel of land behind the hospital. This is a tremendous win for our community and the result of endless meetings and a great deal of hard work over the past 10 months.

In working with the team from ChristianaCare, I have been very impressed with the professionalism and compassion they bring to this effort. They are committed to meeting the needs of our area for decades to come.

Since the announcement that ChristianaCare is coming to town, I've gotten two main thoughts from a lot of people – first, a sense of relief and excitement that an organization with the resources and reputation of Chris-

tianaCare has purchased the old hospital building. Next, the big question – when is it going to reopen? The answer is – it's coming, but not yet. ChristianaCare is carefully evaluating the needs of our community, with an eye toward reopening the "ChristianaCare West Grove Campus" for a sustainable future. The previous owner of the hospital removed most of the IT infrastructure from the hospital, which will need to be replaced. There is a need for some new equipment and other updates as well.

Working with my colleagues in the legislature during this year's budget process, I am pleased to report that ChristianaCare will have access to state grants to help outfit the facility for its reopening. These funds will help accelerate the return of high-quality medical care to Penn Township and the greater southern Chester County community.

I will continue to work with the ChristianaCare team in the days ahead as we move closer to opening the new ChristianaCare West Grove campus. If you have thoughts on what the future of the facility should look like, or anything else related to the hospital, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at the Jennessville office so we can discuss in more detail.

Chester Water Authority **UPDATE**

Many have reached out to my office with concerns about the potential takeover of Chester Water Authority (CWA). CWA provides quality drinking water at a reasonable price to ratepayers across southern Chester and Delaware counties, along with recreational opportunities at the Octoraro Reservoir. Many in our area are very concerned about a potential sale of CWA to private interests. Recent actions taken by the governor, particularly his declaration of a fiscal emergency in the City of Chester, along with recent court decisions, could pave the way for a forced sale CWA.

I have been leading bipartisan efforts in the Legislature to stop any takeover of Chester Water Authority. Late last year, I filed a brief asking the Pennsylvania Supreme Court to review the Commonwealth Court's ruling in CWA vs. Aqua. Commonwealth Court found the City of Chester had unilateral authority to order a sale of CWA. In my view, the Commonwealth Court erred in its ruling, as state law clearly gives this authority to the CWA board, not the city of Chester. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court rarely grants this type of review, but this past April, it agreed to review this case. I subsequently filed a new brief urging the Supreme Court to reverse the lower court's decision. This review by the Supreme Court is likely to take several months.

In other developments, I am keeping a close eye on a recent lawsuit filed by the Pennsylvania Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA) to block the sale of the Willistown Township sewer system. The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission unanimously approved the sale in June, but the OCA lawsuit contends the sale is not in the public interest. Some of the same issues in the Willistown situation are at play in the proposed sale of Chester Water

Authority, and the outcome of the OCA lawsuit could have a significant impact.

In the legislature, the Pennsylvania Senate recently passed Senat Bill 597 and sent it to the House for consideration. Senat Bill 597 would saddle local water and wastewater systems with significant new reporting requirements. In my view, the bill is designed to look like it is protecting ratepayers, but in actuality, it will create regulatory hurdles so high that most small water and wastewater systems will be unable to meet them. The bill gives the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection the authority to "take any...action necessary to enforce compliance" with the proposal. I am concerned that this legislation, if it became law, could put almost every municipal water system in the state into a position where they are forced to sell out, whether they want to or not. I am against Senat Bill 597 in its current form and will file amendments to the bill if it moves out of committee to the full House.

I will continue to advocate for Chester Water Authority in the days ahead. More information and details can be found at RepLawrence.com/CWA.



For the latest legislative updates, visit me online at RepLawrence.com

Rep. John Lawrence

Jennessville Office: 1 Commerce Blvd, Suite 200, West Grove, PA 19390 | 610-869-1602

Community Values Survey 2022

Penn Township is in the process of updating its Comprehensive Plan, building on the success of the 2012 plan. The main principles of that plan encouraged compatible land uses, protection of natural resources, development of recreation areas, preservation of historic sites, and further initiatives for transportation improvement, pedestrian, and biking connections. The new Plan, due to be completed in 2024, will likewise be a guidance document ensuring the viability of the Township as a quality place in which to live, work and play.



This effort to update the Comprehensive Plan depends on your feedback on existing conditions and suggestions for the future, which will help the Township officials and appointed staff guide further decisions.

While the survey on the following pages is anonymous, data will be compiled and presented in a public forum prior to drafting the recommendations for adoption of the final planning document.

If you are a resident, property owner in Penn Township, and/or business owner, please participate in this important effort and encourage others to do the same. The survey can be submitted completed and dropped off/mailed to the Township at your earliest convenience to incorporate your comments by October 1, 2022.

Or you may choose to complete a digital survey via link below or QR code above.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VWCrfzB>



Please drop off or mail completed survey to the Township by **October 1, 2022.**

Penn Township Comprehensive Plan Community Values Survey 2022

Dear residents, your survey responses will be considered in developing goals and recommendations for the future of Penn Township. Your responses are completely ANONYMOUS. Additionally, your responses are combined with all others and summarized in a report to further protect your anonymity.

1. Are you a resident or own property in the Township?

- Yes, resident, and own Penn Township, and I live _____
 Yes, resident and rent _____
 No, but I own property in _____ (Township, County, State)

2. In which general area of the Township do you live?

- Area A (north of Rt. 1 and west of Rt. 796)
 Area B (north of Rt. 1 and east of Rt. 796)
 Area C (south of Rt. 1 and west of Rt. 796)
 Area D (south of Rt. 1 and east of Rt. 796)



3. How long have you lived/owned property in Penn Township?

- Less than 1 year
 1 - 3 years
 3 - 5 years
 5 - 10 years
 10 - 20 years
 More than 20 years

4. What is the approximate size of your property (if multiple, combined total) in Penn Township?

- Less than 1/2 acre
 1/2 - 1 acre
 1 - 2 acres
 2 - 5 acres
 5 - 10 acres
 10 - 50 acres
 More than 50 acres

5. What type of dwelling do you live in/own in Penn Township? (check all that apply)

- Single-family detached
 Two-family (twin, duplex)
 Townhouse
 Apartment/multi-family
 Mobile home
 Other: _____

6. Please indicate the number of persons of your household who work in the following locations:

- ___ In the Township
 ___ In the home
 ___ Southern Chester County
 ___ West Chester
 ___ Chester County (other area)
 ___ Philadelphia
 ___ Delaware County
 ___ Wilmington
 ___ Newark
 ___ Delaware (other area)
 ___ Maryland
 ___ Other: _____

7. What are the main 3 reasons you choose to live/own property in Penn Township? (check up to 3 responses)

- Lifetime resident
 Family/friends in the area (was born and raised here)
 Safety and low crime rates
 Quality of schools
 Rural character, quiet lifestyle
 Access to healthcare
 Scenic beauty and attractiveness
 Convenience to work of the area
 Senior living, assisted living
 Housing costs
 Other: _____

8. In your opinion, what are the 5 most important things to consider in planning for the Township's future? (check up to 5 responses)

- Retaining rural sense of place
 Scenic areas and views
 Traffic management and roadway improvements
 Access to regional trail system
 Addressing changes in weather patterns (i.e., frequent flooding)
 Availability of affordable housing
 Preservation of open space
 Creating open space
 connections /corridors
 Adequacy of community services (i.e., police, fire, healthcare)
 Preservation of farms and farmlands
 Preservation of historic buildings and sites
 Protecting natural resources (i.e., streams, wetlands, woodlands)
 Promoting energy efficiency and use of renewable energy (i.e., solar)

- Managing development and growth
 Other: _____

9. What would cause you to leave/sell your property in Penn Township, other than a change in place of employment or other unexpected life circumstances? (check up to 3 responses)

- Area becoming too overdeveloped
 Limited shopping/entertainment options
 Limited availability of community services (i.e., police, fire)
 Commuting distance and/or time to work
 Quality of public schools
 High cost of living
 Too many regulations
 Not enough parks and/or recreation facilities
 Limited opportunities for walking/biking
 Intensity of farm/agricultural operations
 Too much traffic
 Taxes too high
 No intention of leaving
 Other: _____

10. What type of businesses should we work to attract to Penn Township?

- Active recreation
 High-tech
 Manufacturing
 Finance, insurance, real estate
 Healthcare related businesses
 Restaurants
 Education and training
 Media and entertainment (i.e., movie theatre, museum, attractions)
 Hospitality and service
 Construction
 Other: _____

11. Please rate each statement below by indicating the appropriate number (blank space to the left) as follows:

5 - Strongly agree 4 - Somewhat agree 3 - Neutral
2 - Somewhat disagree 1 - Strongly disagree 0 - No response

"I would support the dedication of more resources to...":
_____ Having strong policies to maintain environmental quality and further the preservation of open space. (Currently, 19% of the Township are protected lands.)

_____ Supporting agricultural related businesses and associated activities.

_____ Helping retain and expand existing businesses.

_____ Attracting businesses that are underrepresented in the Township.

(i.e., retail, restaurants, entertainment, healthcare)

_____ Developing commercial/light industrial sites.

_____ Investing in infrastructure (including water/sewer, etc.)

12. Please rate the statement: "I believe that new developments pay for themselves by increasing property values, which pays for the need for more police, fire, administration, and code enforcement services."

True False

13. Where is the best location for retail and commercial uses in Penn Township?

- Limited to a specifically designated area (check all that apply):
 Along PA Route 1/Kennett Oxford Bypass
 Along W Baltimore Pike
 Along PA Route 794/N Jenersville Road
 Along PA Route 896/Newark Road
 Along East Penn Railroad freight corridor
 Jenersville Kelton
 Along major roadway corridors in general
 No limitation on location (anywhere in Township)
 No need for new commercial development in the Township
 Other: _____

Penn Township Event Schedule - Fall/Winter 2022

Take a peek at our Fall/Winter 2022 event schedule...all event details and dates are subject to change. The best way to keep up with all of Penn Township's happenings is by signing up for e-alerts at www.penntownship.us

Also, be sure to check out our Facebook page, Penn Township, Chester County, PA

Red Rose Rent Day.....Saturday, September 17, 2022 @ 11 AM to 2 PM

Join us for the second annual Red Rose Rent Day ceremony. The commemorative rent ceremony will begin at 11 AM, followed by public Inn tours at 12 PM. All are welcome.

Sunny Day Camp.....Saturday, September 24, 2022 (Rain Date 9/25) @ 10 AM to 1 PM

Law enforcement based camp for children and adults with special needs. Learn more at www.cccampcadet.org

Red Rose Inn Tour.....Sunday, October 9, 2022 @ 12 PM to 2 PM

The Red Rose Inn will be open for public tours.

Penn Township Fall Festival.....Saturday, October 15, 2022 (Rain Date 10/16) @ 12 PM to 4 PM

A special community event filled with free fall fun! This day includes; music, food trucks, vendors, pumpkin painting contest, kid's carnival, Halloween egg hunt and SO much more. Vendor & sponsorship opportunities are available!

Fall Shred It & E-Recycling Day.....Saturday, November 5, 2022 @ 9 AM to 12 PM

This is a free shredding and electronic recycling event at Penn Township Park. Shredding is limited to 3 boxes/bags per vehicle and there is no limit on the electronic recycling. Shredding will be provided by Wiggins Shredding & E-Recycling will be provided by Sycamore International.

Red Rose Inn Tour.....Sunday, December 11, 2022 @ 12 PM to 2 PM

The Red Rose Inn will be open for public tours.

Winter Wonderland in Penn Township Park...Sunday, December 11, 2022 @ 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM

We're excited to announce that Christmas is coming back to Penn Township Park in a big way! Join us for this festive family event which will include; a tree lighting, pictures with Santa, food trucks, crafts, hot chocolate, moon bounces & much more!

Check out our website, www.penntownship.us, or our Facebook page, Penn Township, Chester County, PA, for more information on our events!

Summer of Fun – Events 2022



This was a great summer for our events. If you were able to attend any of our events, you could definitely feel that sense of community. It was a feeling that's been missing the past two years and we were overjoyed to bring it back.

The year started off with our annual **Spring Shred It Event**. We once again welcomed, Wiggins Shredding and Sycamore International. Wiggins shredded more than 7,650lbs of paper onsite! While Sycamore accepted more than six pallets of old electronics. You can look forward to our next Shred It event on Saturday, November 5th!



June, July and August brought some much needed fun to Penn Township Park. This year we, once again, partnered with the Avon Grove Library to bring you **Outdoor Movie Nights**. We were



lucky enough to be able to have The Station Ice Cream Shoppe at all three of our movie nights to serve you cool treats. As well as amazing face painting by Kid Party Pros. Our first responders from West Grove Fire and Ambulance, Medic 94 and the PA State Police, made sure to show up to every one of our events this summer to engage with the community. Otherwise, each movie night offered different activities while we waited for the movie to start. In June we welcomed, Jungle John for "Sing 2". In July we showed "Jaws" and had a mechanical shark ride. In August we showed "Aladdin" and had lots of fun with Princess Jasmine, Queen Elsa and Mirabel. We can't wait to offer our movie nights again next summer!

We also held two Sunday night concerts this summer. In July we offered a tribute to our first responders with



Summer of Fun – Events 2022

First Responder Appreciation night. There was live music by Revolution Heroes, delicious food served by 22BBQ and cool treats from Dino's Ice Cream Truck. In August we held our annual **Sunset Park Day** event. We had live music by the amazing Whiskey Rebellion, they played a mix of bluegrass and country music of all decades. Some great local food trucks; 22BBQ, Mezzaluna Wood Fired Pizza and Kona Ice of Southern Chester County, plus tons of free kids activities.



Summer Fun Days in Penn Township Park were a huge hit this year. These were free kids activities held on the third Thursday in June, July and August at 10 am. Each month we hosted a different activity; Treasure Hunt in the Park in June, First Responder Experience in July and Science Explorers in August. We love hosting these mini events for kids while they are on summer break.



Summer may be almost over but there's still plenty of fun to be had. You can look forward to our second annual **Fall Festival** on October 15th, **Shred It event** in November and our first ever **Winter Wonderland in Penn Township Park** on December 11th. Details for our remaining activities will be listed on our Facebook page and our website.



ChristianaCare Purchases Jennersville Hospital Campus, Listening to Community Needs

In June 2022, ChristianaCare and Tower Health announced an agreement for ChristianaCare to purchase the former Jennersville Hospital Campus, which has been closed since Dec. 31, 2021. The purchase includes two office buildings, plus an additional 24-acre parcel of land adjacent to the hospital.

Heather Farley, M.D., MHCDS, FACEP, ChristianaCare's co-lead for the campus development strategy, answers questions about the plans ChristianaCare has for the Campus.



Heather Farley, M.D.

Can you give us an update about ChristianaCare's purchase of the former Jennersville Hospital Campus?

ChristianaCare has now completed the purchase of the former Jennersville Hospital Campus from Tower Health. It is our privilege to serve our neighbors in southern Chester County as expert, caring partners in health.

We are excited to have this opportunity to reimagine health care at this location. We are here as long-term partners in support of a healthy southern Chester County community.

What is the new name?

The new name of the site is ChristianaCare West Grove Campus.

When will services open on the Campus?

It's going to take a few more months before we can lay out a timeline. Then the actual opening of services will take some time. We want to do this right and in a way that ensures a safe, clinically effective environment that demonstrates consistent outstanding results.

We have 60 caregivers (ChristianaCare considers all of our employees as caregivers) and more than 10 work streams working very hard on this. We are taking a phased approach to the opening of services.

There are many factors that influence our timing such as information technology and infrastructure, supplies and equipment, building upgrades and workforce. I can assure you we are moving as quickly as we can.

What services will be added in the first phase?

Phase 1 will be to re-establish emergency services at the Campus. We've heard loud and clear that this is what the community most urgently needs, and this is what we are working on first.

What services will be added in the next phases?

As we develop each phase, ongoing community feedback will help to inform future phases. We will continually evolve programs and services in a way that enables us to care for the southern Chester County community for decades to come.

Does ChristianaCare operate other services in southern Chester County?

Yes. In March 2022 ChristianaCare added two primary care practices at Jennersville and West Grove that were also previously part of Tower Health. And in October 2020 we added a practice in Kennett Square that provides primary care and women's health services to families in that community. Combined, these three practices are now the "medical home" for 22,000 of our neighbors in these communities (see side bar article).

In addition, residents from southern Chester County are receiving care at our multi-service Concord Health Center located on the ChristianaCare Concord Campus, North Route 202 in Chadds Ford.

At that location we offer many services such as sports medicine, endocrinology, behavioral health and some cancer services along with primary care and women's health. Additionally, the site offers imaging, lab and physical/occupational therapy facilities.

Is seems you are making it a priority to meet with the community.

Yes. Since the purchase was announced in June, we've made it a priority to engage with and really listen to community members. We have met with or plan to meet with local and state government officials, school officials, chambers of commerce, nonprofit organizations, emergency responders, faith leaders and major employers in the area.

This has been an extraordinary experience to-date. Everyone has been incredibly welcoming and supportive. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve the southern Chester County community.

ChristianaCare Primary Care Is Nearby – Now in Jennersville, West Grove, Kennett Square and Chadds Ford, PA

ChristianaCare has been serving Southeastern Pennsylvania since the opening of its Concord Health Center in Chadds Ford in 2014.

Now there are more options for care locally with the addition of three ChristianaCare primary care practices in Jennersville, West Grove and Kennett Square.

Combined, these three practices are now the "medical home" for 22,000 residents in these communities.

Patients who choose a ChristianaCare primary care practice benefit from the advantages of being connected to one of the region's largest, most advanced health care systems, including electronic medical records and easy referrals. Their primary care provider becomes their "medical home" — the place where patients can build a relationship with their health care provider and seek medical advice for health problems large and small.

Each of the practices provide optimal primary care services, including physical examinations, preventive health screenings and immunizations, chronic disease management and care for acute illnesses. The primary care practice at Kennett Square also offers a full range of women's health services, including well woman visits including annual pap smears, long-acting reversible contraception options and obstetrics and gynecological care.



Michael A. Barkasy, Jr., M.D.

Continued on page 16

Continued from page 15

All patients of ChristianaCare's primary care practices can access a secure patient portal that helps them to be actively engaged in their health.

The three practices are serving our community at the following addresses:

ChristianaCare Primary Care at Jennersville

900 W. Baltimore Pike,
Jennersville, PA 19390
Phone: 610-806-5611
christianacare.org/jennersville

ChristianaCare Primary Care and Women's Health at Kennett Square

721 East Baltimore Pike, Ste 100,
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Phone: 610-765-4200
christianacare.org/kennett

ChristianaCare Primary Care at West Grove

390 Vineyard Way,
West Grove, PA 19390
Phone: 610-806-5450
christianacare.org/west-grove

ChristianaCare Primary Care at Concord Health Center

161 Wilmington-West Chester Pike,
Chadds Ford, PA 19317
Phone: 610-361-1060
christianacare.org/concord

LCH Walk for Wellness

Last year, during more than 36,000 visits, LCH Health and Community Services supported 8,781 individuals with access to healthcare and community services. Regular checkups, wellness visits, and health screenings are an important part of a healthy lifestyle. LCH's Community Health Screenings make it easier to connect the community to important health care resources.

You can help provide access to these free health screenings by supporting the virtual LCH Walk for Wellness. Register today at charityfootprints.com/lchwalk. Friends, families, companies, and colleagues connect from anywhere and encourage one another to achieve their wellness goals!

Participant registration begins on August 15th, 2022. The virtual Walk for Wellness will be from September 1, 2022 to October 13, 2022. All participants are invited to the Live Finish Line Party on October 15, 2022 at the Penn Township Fall Festival to celebrate, pick up their Walk for Wellness gift and enjoy music, activities, treats & more! Our goal is to walk 105,000 miles around Chester County (there is a map!) and raise \$60,000 to fund free health screenings!

Support your health and wellness goals while making a difference right here in Penn Township. By registering or donating today, you will help LCH provide access to health care in our community. Let's walk for wellness together!

For information please contact Kate Wickersham, LCH Director of Development at kwickersham@lchservices.org or 610-444-7550 ext. 283.





Story Walk 2022



Penn Township, alongside the partnership from our friends at the Avon Grove Library have started our very own Story Walk®. The Story Walk® Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Vermont bicycle & Pedestrian Coalition and Kellogg-Hubbard Library. The Story Walk® is located in Penn Township Sports Park.

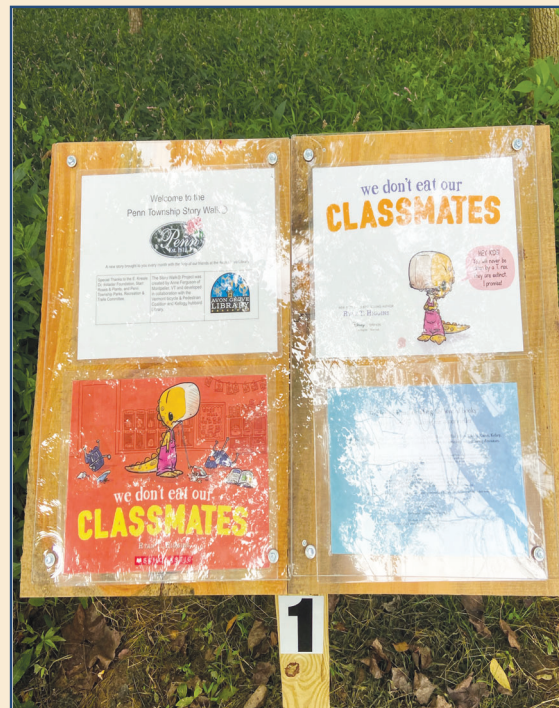
A special thank you to the E, Kneale Dockstader Foundation, Startt Roses & Plants, and the Penn Township Parks, Recreation, & Trails Committee. Be sure to visit the Sports Park every month, for a new book!

Our Current Book:

- New York's #1 Best Seller,
We Don't Eat Our Classmates by Ryan T. Higgins

Upcoming Books: In no particular order

- Harry's Big Adventure by Mickey Zinczenko
 - The Giving Snowman by Julia Zheng
 - How to Catch a Turkey by Adam Wallace
- The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin by Joe Troiano



Boy Scouts

Penn Township Parks & Recreation Committee

Herb MacCombie, III, Chairman

The Boy Scout Law has twelve points that every Scout tries to live up to every day. It is not always easy to do but a Scout always tries. Penn Township is blessed to have a group of Scouts that exemplify the Scout Law.

A Scout is:

TRUSTWORTHY. Tell the truth and keep promises. People can depend on you.

LOYAL. Show that you care about your family, friends, Scout leaders, school, and country.

HELPFUL. Volunteer to help others without expecting a reward.

FRIENDLY. Be a friend to everyone, even people who are very different from you.

COURTEOUS. Be polite to everyone and always use good manners.

KIND. Treat others as you want to be treated. Never harm or kill any living thing without good reason.

OBEDIENT. Follow the rules of your family, school, and pack. Obey the laws of your community and country.

CHEERFUL. Look for the bright side of life. Cheerfully do tasks that come your way. Try to help others be happy.

THRIFTY. Work to pay your own way. Try not to be wasteful. Use time, food, supplies, and natural resources wisely.

BRAVE. Face difficult situations even when you feel afraid. Do what you think is right despite what others might be doing or saying.

CLEAN. Keep your body and mind fit. Help keep your home and community clean.

REVERENT. Be reverent toward God. Be faithful in your religious duties. Respect the beliefs of others.

The E. Kneale Dockstader Outdoor Educational Center is nearing completion at the Sports Park thanks to the challenging work of several area Scouts working toward the Rank of Eagle Scout. The Eagle Scout Rank is the highest achievement or rank attainable in the Scouting program of the Boy Scouts of America. Since its inception in 1911, only four percent of Scouts have earned the Eagle Scout Rank. The process is an arduous in the life a Scout requiring the ascent through 7 Scouting ranks, earning 21 Merit Badges, becoming a leader in their troop, and completing a service project that is helpful to a religious institution, school, or the community. The project requires the planning and completion of a project that benefits the needs of a group of people. The actual construction work is the culmination of months of planning and organizing that demonstrates the Scout's leadership abilities and dedication to the Scout Laws. There have four Eagle Scout Projects at the E. Kneale Dockstader Outdoor Educational Center.

- **Gage Walker** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to build three concrete pads for the benches along the trail through the Nature Area.
- **Daniel Giacoio** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to build thirteen timber benches and an outdoor chalk board for the outdoor classroom
- **Bradley Gerwig** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to build the timber lectern and two handicap accessible workstations for the outdoor classroom
- **Aiden Graham** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to build raised planting beds to be used to grow native species of plants that will be used to beautify the Nature Area.

In addition to the Projects completed at the Sports Park three Scouts completed projects at the Community Park.

- **Reid DeMarco-Myers** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to replace deck boards in Gazebos and handicap ramps leading to one the Gazebos and paint railings to extend the life of the Gazebos and provide safe access for the Community
- **Dylan Demarco-Myers** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to build Tee Pees in the tot lot area of the park for children to enjoy and learn about Native Americans.
- **Lloyd Degan** planned, designed, and lead a team of Scouts and Adults to replace deck boards in Gazebos and handicap ramps leading to one the Gazebos and paint railings to extend the life of the Gazebos and provide safe access for the Community

These Scouts clearly lived up to the 12 points of the Scout Law by planning and conducting these very important projects for the Community. Penn Township is thankful to the Boy Scouts for there dedication to the Community and proud to part of the Scouts personal achieve to reach the rank of Eagle Scout.

We know the Construction of the new Sport Park seems to be moving very slowly, but please know there has been some progress. While the Township awaits a contract for the Federal Grant from the National Park Service the team continues to work with the Engineering team to final plans so one the contracts are in place the project can advertise for bids. The Township also met with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to finalize an application for funding for the second phase. The Staff left the meeting hopeful the Township would do well in this Grant Round. The next round of Chester County Park Development Funding opens this fall, and the Township Grant Writers are already preparing to submit an application for additional funding.

West Grove Troop 30 Boy Scout Ryan Freese Conducts Emergency Preparedness Exercise at Ovations

On Saturday April 30th Boy Scout Ryan Freese of West Grove Boy Scout Troop 30 conducted an exercise to demonstrate readiness should a Shelter-in-Place emergency occur. Ryan was working on his Emergency Preparedness Merit Badge on his journey to Eagle Scout.

Ryan selected six residences in the Ovation development to participate in the no-contact exercise. Poster boards with large green dots were distributed to the six households. The posters were large enough to be seen from the street. The residents were asked to display the posters in a front window visible from the street. In the event of an emergency that would require residents to shelter-in-place the green dot would signify that the residents of that household did not have any urgent needs that would require Fire, Police, or other Township Services. The Township Emergency Management Services than observed the posters from the street to determine if the green dots were visible. The exercise was a success, and the Emergency Management Services are evaluating whether this could be implemented Township-wide.

In addition to the Township Emergency Management Services, Ryan was assisted by Supervisor Radar O'Connell and Chuck Freese, Penn Township's Emergency Management Coordinator. We wish Ryan much success as he climbs the path towards the rank of Eagle Scout.



Comitta Introducing Hospital Closure Reform Legislation

August 5, 2022

WEST CHESTER, PA (August 5, 2022) – In order to empower greater community input and increase public transparency, state Senator Carolyn Comitta is introducing legislation to reform the process around hospital closures.



“A sudden, profit-driven decision to close an emergency facility can have a destabilizing effect on an entire region and people deserve a complete picture on the ramifications of a potential closure,” Comitta said. “This legislation looks to address these concerns by creating a transparent process that encourages greater public participation, so communities can quickly set a course of action to restore access to health services.”

The legislation comes in the wake of Tower Health’s decision to close two Chester County hospitals, Jennersville and Brandywine, earlier this year. The bill increases the notice hospitals must give before closing a facility, from 90 days to 180 days. It also establishes more comprehensive and defined standards for procedure and notification of a closure.

“Abrupt announcements and a lack of transparency around recent hospital closures left many people searching for answers concerning the future of critical health services in their community, Comitta said. “This bill will provide local and state officials, community leaders, and healthcare professionals additional time to assess a potential closure and reduce the likelihood of a lapse in emergency service.”

The bill also includes requirements for an approved Closing Plan and Health Equity Impact Assessment to be submitted to the Department of Health and Attorney General, and it calls for increased community input, data collection, public comment, and public hearings prior to closure.

“Like doctors and those in the medical community, hospitals have a duty to ‘first do no harm,’” Comitta added. “This bill aims to support and empower a community to seek other solutions for vital health services and prevent a ripple effect to other essential services. While we cannot reverse previous actions taken by emergency service providers, these reform measures bring Pennsylvanians towards a more transparent view of our healthcare system.”

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Harrisburg Office:
457 Main Capitol Building
Senate Box 203019
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3019
Phone: (717) 787-5709

District Office:
17 E Gay Street
Suite 301
West Chester, PA 19380
Phone: (610) 692-2112

www.pasenatorcomitta.com
@SenatorComitta
Facebook – Twitter – Instagram

AGSD Update for Penn Township

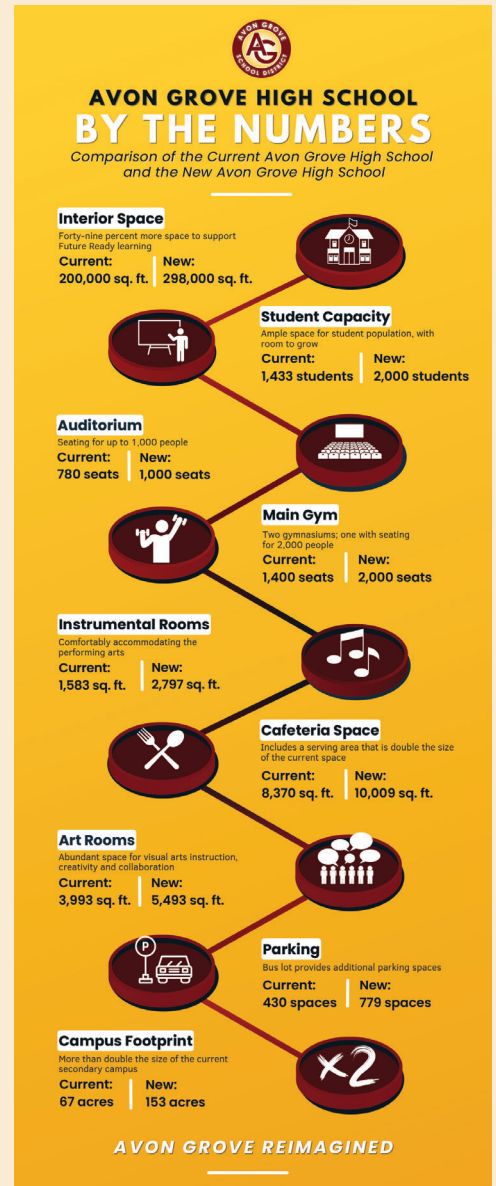
This is an exciting time for the Penn Township community! After many years in the making, Avon Grove School District (AGSD) will open its doors to a new, state-of-the-art high school for the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

The building will provide a dynamic, Future Ready environment for AGSD students to learn and grow. The new Avon Grove High School (AGHS) will also serve as a community resource by providing space for athletic events, the performing arts, craft fairs and more.

As the population in AGSD continues to grow, many schools are becoming overcrowded. The new AGHS will provide ample space for the current student population with room for future generations to flourish. The auditorium has seating for up to 1,000 people. The building contains two gymnasiums, one with seating for up to 2,000 people. Overall, the new campus footprint is more than double the size of the former secondary campus.

In addition to the new high school construction project, AGSD is currently renovating the former high school building into a middle school. The updated building will be a true middle school, accommodating students in grades 6 through 8, as opposed to the current middle school structure, which serves students in grades 7 and 8 only. The grade realignment will also provide additional space on the elementary campus. The renovated middle school is projected to open for the start of the 2023-2024 school year.

Throughout the summer, the district delivered preview videos to share enthusiasm and keep community members informed of the construction progress. To view these videos, photos and more, visit <https://www.avongrove.org/facilities-1>.



**PENNSYLVANIA
STATE POLICE**



Sunny Day Camp^{GM}

SUNNY DAY CAMP IS BACK!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022

(RAIN DATE 9/25)

AT PENN TOWNSHIP PARK

The Pennsylvania State Police Camp Cadet of Chester and Lancaster Counties invites children and adults, with special needs, or disabilities and Special Olympic participants, with their families and friends to join us for a free law enforcement based "Sunny Day Camp". This will be a fun filled learning experience.

The day will include several demonstrations & activities: Canine Unit, Aviation-Rescue Helicopter, Police Vehicle Display, Bomb Squad, SERT Team, lunch, games, music & dancing!

To find our more information or to register visit – www.cccampcadet.org

Contact Trooper Kevin Kochka with questions – 610-268-2102



Red Rose Rent Day 2022

Saturday, September 17, 2022

Rent Ceremony at 11 AM

Inn Tours from 12 PM – 2 PM

The Penn Township Historical Commission presents the second annual Red Rose Rent Day at the Rose Rose Inn! Join them for the symbolic rose rent ceremony and guest speakers. Afterwards, take step back in time with a stroll through the Red Rose Inn. Discover local historical artifacts and marvel at the restoration of the historic Red Rose Inn.

More details can be found at www.penntownship.us



The Penn Township Pumpkin Painting Contest is BACK!

ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

We are looking for creative individuals to enter painted and decorated pumpkins into our second annual Pumpkin Painting Contest! Decorated pumpkins will be displayed for public voting during our **Fall Festival on October 15, 2022**. The top two pumpkins, with the most votes, in each age group will receive **prizes**. Additionally, special guest judges will be awarding winners in each age group, the 'Judge's Choice' award based on these categories; cutest pumpkin, scariest pumpkin, most creative pumpkin.

Little Pumpkins (ages 2-6) • Ghosts & Goblins (ages 7-12) • Skeletons (ages 13-18) • Vampires (ages 18+)

Contest Rules –

1. Pumpkin cannot be carved or hollowed out.
2. Pumpkin must be the main part of your display.
3. Acceptable decoration materials include; paint, stickers, paper & other craft supplies.
4. Pumpkin should be no larger than 36" in circumference. We won't be measuring; we just need to be able to pick them up!
5. All decoration materials should be firmly secured to the pumpkin. We need to be able to move the pumpkins without the decorations falling off.
6. Keep it classy, this is a family event. Anything lewd or inappropriate will not be accepted.
7. Pumpkins must be dropped off on October 15th between 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. to Penn Township Park, just inside the park gates. (260 Lewis Road, West Grove, PA 19390).
8. Pumpkins can be picked up that same day, after 3:45 p.m. or they can be picked up October 17th or 18th between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. from the Penn Township Building (same address as above). Pumpkins that are not claimed after October 18th will be disposed of.
9. Contest winners will be notified on Monday, October 17th and prizes can be picked up from the Penn Township Building.

To Enter –

You must be registered ahead of time. Please sign up using our SignUpGenius link on our website www.penntownship.us > Community Resources > Penn Township Fall Festival **OR** Email **contestant name, age and parent contact information** to Caitlin at cianni@penntownship.us



WGFC Still Feeling the Impacts of Jennersville Hospital Closing

Area emergency services providers, like the West Grove Fire Company, continue to feel the impacts of the closing of the Jennersville Regional Hospital in January. And despite the good news from late June that ChristianaCare has purchased the former JRH site, the impacts on EMS (emergency medical services) will continue until after the new facility opens.

The WGFC provides fire, rescue and EMS services for all of Penn Township, and operates three stations: in West Grove borough, in New London, and the station located in Nichol Park in London Britain Township. WGFC EMS operates four ambulances that are staffed on a 24x7 basis, and was dispatched to 2896 EMS emergency calls in 2021. This year, as of August 1, there have been 533 ambulance calls in Penn Township – with Penn Township the busiest municipality for the WGFC basic life support service.

The closing of JRH continues to have an enormous impact on the WGFC EMS operation. Extended travel times to more distant hospitals and wear and tear on personnel and vehicles are among the impacts. And not only did JRH close, so too did the Brandywine Hospital in Coatesville, leaving all of western and southern Chester County without local hospitals. Adding to the impacts are the recent higher prices of fuel which continue to have budget impacts on all emergency providers.

These impacts have led to increased ambulance call volumes, with the WGFC and other services seeing multiple calls at the same time – as units remain out of district at distant hospitals. As an example, the WGFC EMS service logged a record month in July, with 292 calls, and is on pace to exceed 3,100 calls in 2022 (an increase of 200+ calls over 2021).



The fire company is grateful for the work of Penn Township officials, along with county and state elected officials, for their work to assist the emergency services teams to manage through this difficult period. The leadership of ChristianaCare has been meeting this summer with officials, emergency services leaders, and community groups to gain an assessment of the community needs – all of which will funnel into the hospitals strategic planning process and help drive decisions about what will ultimately happen in Jennersville.

These impacts on the WGFC will continue until new hospital services are opened by ChristianaCare in Jennersville, a timetable for which has yet to be announced. Until then, the WGFC EMS team will continue to deliver its emergency services under the current challenging environment. For more details on those impacts, see these stories:

The official press release from ChristianaCare can be seen here: <https://news.christianacare.org/pressrelease/christianacare-signs-agreement-to-purchase-former-jennersville-hospital-location-from-tower-health/>

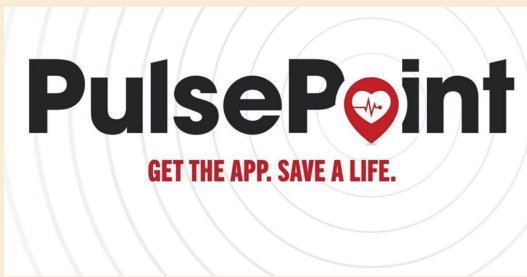
For more information on the impacts of the hospital closings on WGFC, see:

<https://www.wgfc.org/news/1111/Updated--Hospital-Closed---WGFC-Operations-and-Plans-in-Motion->

<https://www.wgfc.org/news/1142/WGFC-Leaders-Testify-at-House-Hearing-on-EMS-Crisis-in-Pennsylvania>

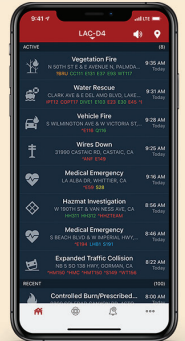
All of us at the West Grove Fire Company applaud ChristianaCare for this strategic investment and welcome the organization to our community. In addition, the volunteers and staff of the WGFC are grateful for the support of municipal officials in London Britain and the other municipalities, and the public for helping the fire company through this crisis period. The fire company has also seen strong interest in volunteering at the fire company – anyone interested can apply at wgfc.org.

News You Can Use from Medic 94!



Chester County is a participating member in PulsePoint - an app that empowers everyday citizens to provide life-saving assistance to victims of sudden cardiac arrest. App users who have indicated they are trained in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and willing to assist in case of an emergency can be notified if someone nearby is having a cardiac emergency and may require CPR. If the cardiac emergency is in a

public place, the location-aware application will alert users in the vicinity of the need for CPR simultaneous with the dispatch of advanced medical care. The application also directs these potential rescuers to the exact location of the closest Automated External Defibrillator (AED). The app also provides a list of ongoing incidents in the County. Download Pulsepoint from any app store and plug in your location.



Before the Ambulance Arrives How You Can Help

If you witness a medical emergency where someone is seriously injured, you should first call 911. But do you know what to do to help in the sometimes-crucial minutes before paramedics arrive? After you have called 9-1-1, there are some things you can do before help arrives:

If you determine that the patient doesn't have a pulse and is not breathing, begin cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Push Hard, Push Fast, Center of the Chest. All of the dispatchers at the Chester County 9-1-1 center are certified Emergency Medical Dispatchers and can provide CPR instructions over the phone until the help arrives arrive.



If there's bleeding, first control blood loss:

- Apply direct pressure to the wound with gauze or a clean T-shirt or towel.
- If blood continuously soaks through the dressing you've applied, try applying firm pressure to a major artery somewhere between the wound and the heart.
- If this doesn't work to slow or stop bleeding, you can use a tourniquet, which you can make yourself if there isn't one nearby.

If possible, it is helpful to have the following things available for them:

- A list of the patient's medications
- A list of the patient's allergies
- A list of the patient's medical history (What conditions do they see a doctor for?)

Diabetes, High blood pressure, have they ever had a heart attack or stroke, etc.)

- If possible, move all furniture or obstacles out of the way so that the paramedics have easy access to the patient. Secure pets in another area of the house.
- If possible, assist the arriving responders by turning on the outside lights and having someone standing at the curb to direct them. This is especially important in multi-unit buildings or remote locations.
- Stay calm. This will reassure the patient that help is on the way.

Save the Date.

The annual fund drive supporting MEDIC 94 will be sent out to the community Thanksgiving Week. Look for the mailer or go to medic94.org to donate. Now, more than ever, we need your support!



DO I NEED A PERMIT FOR THAT?

PROJECTS THAT ALWAYS REQUIRE A PERMIT:

- Any Change Effecting a Building's Structure
- Boilers, Water Heaters, or Furnaces
- Decks & Patios
- Building Demolition
- Drainage Systems
- Driveway Extensions
- Electrical Work
- Fences
- Fire Alarms & Sprinklers
- Home Occupations
- HVAC
- New Buildings, Renovations, or Additions
- Pools (in excess of 24 inches deep)
- Plumbing Work
- Sheds & Accessory Structures
- Signs
- Stucco Remediation



PROJECTS THAT DON'T USUALLY REQUIRE A PERMIT:

- Cabinet Installation
- Installation of Carpet or Tile
- Painting
- Repaving/Sealing Driveways
- Re-Roofing
- Siding Replacements
- Window Replacement (when there is no structural change)

KEEP IN MIND...

- If you have an HOA some changes, such as decks, need to be approved by them prior to applying for a permit from the Township.
- If you have a question as to whether a permit is required, please be sure to give us a call – 610-869-9620

Why do I need a permit?

Approximately 10 years ago, the State of Pennsylvania mandated all municipalities adopt a Building Code known as the Uniform Construction Code (UCC). The UCC provides specific requirements and exemptions for building projects.

Before any construction, repair, renovation, or addition is started, it's important to contact the office to determine if a permit must be obtained. Permits are put in place for the safety of the homeowner, and they ensure that proper codes are being followed and work is being done safely and in compliance with the UCC. If you are ever uncertain whether or not you need a permit, call the township.



Commercial **Building Inspector & Zoning:**

Scott Moran
610-637-1003
scott.accuratebulding@gmail.com

Residential **Building Inspector & Zoning:**

Jim Kowalski
215-872-8160
jkowlaski@codeinspections.net

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR A PERMIT?



Step 1: Fill out your permit application

We've made applying for permit applications easy!

- You can fill out applications **online** and email them to us.
- Fill out the applications through our NEW **permit software**.
- Print/pick up **paper applications** from our office and fill out a paper version.

Website Instructions:

To access permit applications through our website or our permitting software visit, www.penntownship.us – Click on “Residents” then “Permit Applications”. Here you'll find all our permit applications and access to our permit software.

Step 2: Submit your application

Once you've filled out ALL information you may submit permits via one of the following:

- **Email** it to us – office@penntownship.us
- **Drop it off** or **mail it** – 260 Lewis Road, West Grove, PA 19390
- Submit via our **online software** – no need to come in or mail, just simply **submit your forms online**.

*Reminder – A certificate of insurance and plot plans are required at time of submittal. See permit application sheet for additional instructions.

Step 3: Wait for approval

Once submitted, permit applications will be sent to our building inspectors for review. They will review each permit, approve or deny them, and then submit them back to the township. The township will contact the applicant and let them know that their permit is ready for pick up and what the permit fee will be.

PERMIT FAQs

- **Residential permits can take up to two (2) weeks for review.**
- **Commercial permits can take up to thirty (30) days for review.**
- **To use our permit software, you will need to create an account.**
- **Permit fees are due upon pick up; we accept cash & checks.**
- **Permits should be visibly displayed at the work site.**
- **Permits are valid for six (6) months from the date of issue. A one time extension can be requested - there will be an additional fee.**
- **You may view our Zoning Ordinances on our website under “Maps & Zoning”.**
- **A Road Occupancy Permit is required for any work that will affect township roads. Please inquire at the Township office for more information.**



Ordinance 2022-02 – Promoting Public Safety



In a continuing effort to promote public safety in the community of Penn, on August 3, 2022, the Penn Township Supervisors adopted Ordinance 2022-02 known as the “Knox Box Ordinance”. An Ordinance of Penn Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania requiring Key Lock or Knox Boxes at new commercial and industrial buildings, existing commercial and industrial buildings, and certain multi-family residential buildings.



A Knox Box or Key Lock Box is defined as being part of a secure rapid entry system designed to be used by fire department personnel. The Knox Boxes are required for new commercial and industrial buildings, existing commercial and industrial buildings undergoing improvements, existing commercial and industrial buildings within 6 months of the effective date of the ordinance, multi-family residential structures with restricted access through locked doors with a common corridor; nursing care and retirement facilities with a locked door and common corridors and schools of instruction. Knox Box contents are required to have phone contact lists, multiple sets of master keys to the building, including elevator keys if appropriate. The requirements of the contents of the Knox Box shall be as directed by the West Grove Fire Company. A permit is required for any building which is required by this ordinance to have a Knox Box and the penalty is an enforcement penalty of \$600.00 per day for violation with an appeal procedure to Board of Supervisors. Effective date shall be 5 days after the date of enactment. If you have questions regarding whether this ordinance applies to you, please contact the office at office@penntownship.us or 610-869-9620.

Peddling and Soliciting in Penn Township



In December of 2012, the Penn Supervisors adopted the Peddling and Solicitation Ordinance. Resulting from complaints and safety concerns, this ordinance is intended to protect our residents from unwanted contact with solicitors and peddlers and to protect those traveling township roads by limiting peddling and soliciting to only those who have obtained a permit issued by the Township Code Enforcement Officer. **At the time of this publication, not one permit has been issued.**

In order to obtain a permit, an application must be completed and returned along with an application fee and proof of insurance of a minimum of \$1,000,000 in general liability. The full ordinance and application are available on our website at www.penntownship.us under “permits, forms and applications”.

To ensure the safety of those on Penn Township roads, no one may collect money for any organization on a public roadway in Penn Township. Selling or soliciting is **strictly prohibited** on public roadways, roadsides, alleys, neighborhoods or anywhere that a sign is posted prohibiting solicitation.

Violators will be prosecuted and fined for trespassing.

Of course, the best course of action is to never buy from a solicitor or peddler. If there is no one to buy, they will not sell. If you do not recognize the person at your door, a best practice is not to answer.

If there is a solicitor operating within the township borders without the appropriate permit, please report it to the township office at 610-869-9620 or by email at office@penntownship.us. Please provide us with a business card or pamphlet or even a picture of their vehicle.

Penn Township Tax Information

The Township Office receives many inquiries regarding taxes. The following is a guide to what taxes are charged, when you can expect a bill, and what entity is the collector.

Earned Income Tax (EIT) is assessed at a rate of .5 percent. Any wage earner who lives in or works in Penn Township owes this tax. Usually, employers withhold this tax from a wage earner's paycheck. Whether it is withheld or not, the tax is owed and a local tax form must be filed.

Local Services Tax (LST) is \$52.00 per year and is usually withheld by the employer. This tax supports municipal and emergency services. There is a low-income exemption for people earning less than \$12,000. This exemption requires the submission of a form.

Avon Grove School District taxes are sent on July 1 of each year at a rate of 33.52 mills. As of 2021-2022, Avon Grove School District taxes are collected through Keystone Collections. The PSD code is 150106.

EIT, LST, and Avon Grove School District taxes are all collected by Keystone Collections.

Keystone Collections Group
546 Wendel Road, Irwin, PA 15642
724-978-0300
www.keystonecollects.com

Chester County Real Estate taxes are sent on January 15 of each year. The millage rate for Chester County is 4.551.

Penn Township Real Estate taxes are assessed at a rate of .53 mills. The tax bills are sent in early February.

Chester County Real Estate and Penn Township Real Estate taxes are collected by the Chester County Office.

Chester County Treasurer
313 W. Market St, West Chester, PA 19380
610-344-6370
www.chesco.org



PENN TOWNSHIP VOTING

General Election Day:
Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Penn Township's polling place for the General Election is at the Penn Township Building, 260 Lewis Road, West Grove, PA. The last day to register for the Nov. election is Oct. 24. For more info on voter services, please visit www.chesco.com

Penn Rail Road

The Elk Creek Trestle has been an historic landmark to Penn Township for almost 2 centuries now. Located right behind the neighborhood of Elk Creek Farms, the bridge stands about 62ft tall and 853ft long. Construction of the first trestle in Elkview was made entirely out of wood in the early 1860's, but by 1869 the wood was replaced by the iron and steel, which is still present today. Although the structure looks rickety and unsafe, the trestle is still in use today and is completely sound.



Photo credits courtesy of David Porter

Another historic site in Elkview would be the location of the unfortunate and fatal trainwreck of June 3rd, 1902. The crash occurred between two different locomotives, due to an error in communication that led to the two trains being on the same track at the same time, hitting the other head-on. The collision caused the death of one passenger, John Hendrickson, and the injuries of several others aboard. Today, mile marker 44 marks the location of the crash and is where the 100th anniversary ceremony, honoring Hendrickson and the trainwreck, was held back in 2002.

~ Kailey Mitchell





**Sunday, December 11, 2022
3:30 PM to 5:30 PM
Penn Township Park
260 Lewis Road, West Grove, PA 19390**

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**TREE LIGHTING • PICTURES WITH SANTA • FOOD TRUCKS
CRAFTS AND CAROLS WITH GIRL SCOUT TROOPS 4251 & 4567
HOT CHOCOLATE • MOON BOUNCES • AND MORE!**

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**For event updates, follow us on our Facebook page;
Penn Township, Chester County, PA and
our website www.penntownship.us**

**If you are interested in being a part of or sponsoring this event,
contact Caitlin at cianni@penntownship.us**

Penn Township Newsletter

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260 Lewis Road, West Grove, PA 19390

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address corrections not required

Love your Dog, License your Dog



LICENSE YOUR DOG.

WITHOUT IDENTIFICATION A LOST DOG
may never make it home.

License your dog by January 1st: www.licenseyourdogpa.com

All dogs three months or older must be licensed by Jan. 1 of each year. Violators can be cited with a maximum fine of \$300 per violation plus court costs.

An annual license is \$8.50 and a lifetime license is \$51.50. If the animal is spayed or neutered, the annual fee is \$6.50 and lifetime is \$31.50. Discounts are available to older adults and people with disabilities. The small license fee helps the millions of dogs in the state by funding the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

Dog licenses are available at the Chester County Treasurers Office and other licensing agents. Chester County Treasurer's Office, Attn: Dog License, 313 West Market St. Suite 3202, PO Box 2748, West Chester, PA 19380 or visit <https://www.padoglicense.com/>