

Chairman's message



The Gander The Newsletter of Thornbury Township, Chester County

Discount Tickets

Summer is here! Thornbury Township is excited to bring to you recreational discount ticket sales. There are a number theme parks listed, some local and some not so local. The next page highlights the tickets available at the Township building. Plan some family fun and get your tickets today. Quantities are limited. AMC movie tickets are also available. The cost is \$8.00 per ticket. Stay cool and view a movie!

2016 Road Program

Instead of four seasons, township work is sometimes viewed as two seasons: winter snow removal and summer road repairs. The 2016 Road Program shall include work on Twaddell Drive, Dayspring Lane, Woodbine Road, and South Concord Road. Notices will be sent to the immediate residents when actual paving dates have been scheduled. During the project there may be intermediate road closures but access shall be maintained for residences. Drainage work is scheduled for Westbourne Road. This work shall require full road closure at the work site. An email update will be sent advising of the upcoming work. The job is expected to take about a week, weather dependent. Please be attentive to the road closure notices. There are a lot

of people who will be working along the Township's roads in the coming months. These workers are always just inches from harm, at the mercy of distracted and aggressive drivers. Local and state road construction workers, utility crews, ambulance personnel and police officers, all find themselves at risk. PennDOT offers the following safety tips for dealing with road construction season. Drive the posted work-zone speed limit. Stay alert and pay close attention to signs and flaggers. Turn on your headlights if signs instruct you to do so. Headlights are required in all active work zones. Maintain a safe distance around vehicles. Don't tailgate. Use four-way flashers when stopped or traveling slowly. Avoid distractions and give your full attention to the road. Always buckle up. Expect the unexpected. Be patient. If motorists follow these tips, everyone will be able to arrive alive.

Area Townships set to launch Citizen Education program

The West Chester Area Council of Governments is proud to announce the formation of the *Neighborhood University of Greater West Chester*, set to begin in September 2016. The *Neighborhood University* is intended to provide area citizens with the tools necessary to be better advocates for their community by educating them on local government structure, and by increasing their awareness of available municipal services and resources. Developed by the

staffs of several area Townships, the free training program will educate area residents on the inner workings of local government. *Neighborhood University* is open to any citizen 16 or older residing in one of the participating communities (East Bradford, East Goshen, Thornbury (ChesCo), West Chester, West Goshen, West Whiteland, and Westtown). Eleven, 2-hour sessions will be facilitated by local officials and will cover topics including:

- Structure of local government in Pennsylvania
 - Fire, Police and Emergency Management
 - Water Resource Management
 - Zoning, Land Use and Development
 - Public Finances and Transportation Management
- Enrollment will begin this summer, and class size is limited. Email updates about registration will be forthcoming.

Thank You

Thank you to all commissions and board members who give so generously of their time and attention to Township matters. It is truly their efforts which add to the success of this community. Possible land development, comprehensive plan updates, upcoming meetings and agendas can be at your fingertips... sign up for email updates at

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Pennsylvania 2016 Discount Ticket Sales Price List

		Gate \$	Selling \$	Savings
Adventure Aquarium	<i>Adult (13 & over)</i>	\$28.84	\$20.00	\$8.84
Camden, NJ	<i>Child (2-12)</i>	\$21.35	\$16.00	\$5.35
Diggerland USA - W. Berlin, NJ	<i>General Admission (Over 36" tall - Age 64)</i>	\$36.95	\$24.00	\$12.95
Dorney Park - Allentown, PA	<i>Adult (48" or taller)</i>	\$57.75	\$45.00	\$12.75
	<i>Print at Home Promo Code (Weekend)</i>	\$57.75	\$45.00	\$12.75
	<i>Print at Home Promo Code (Weekday)</i>	\$57.75	\$44.00	\$13.75
Dutch Wonderland	<i>Regular (age 3-69) (70+ Sr. tickets at park only)</i>	\$42.56	\$34.00	\$8.56
Hersheypark	<i>Adult (9-54)</i>	\$63.80	\$49.00	\$14.80
	<i>Child (3-8)/Senior(55-69)</i>	\$40.80	\$38.00	\$2.80
	<i>Early Adult (4/29-6/30, Sun-Fri)</i>	\$63.80	\$39.00	\$24.80
	<i>Early Child (4/29-6/30, Sun-Fri)</i>	\$40.80	\$32.00	\$8.80
	<i>Online Sales Only Hersheypark in the Dark Adult</i>	TBA		
	<i>Online Sales Only Hersheypark in the Dark Junior/Senior</i>	TBA		
	<i>Online Sales Only Christmas Candylane</i>	TBA		
Longwood Gardens	<i>Discount Coupon Program</i>	TBA		
Medieval Times	<i>All Ages Dinner & Show</i>	\$67.36	\$36.00	\$31.36
Lyndhurst, NJ	<i>Please call 1-888-WE-JOUST to make a reservation. Prices do not include gratuity.</i>			
PA Renaissance Faire	<i>Adult (12+)</i>	\$31.95	\$24.00	\$7.95
Lancaster, PA	<i>Child (5-11)</i>	\$11.95	\$9.00	\$2.95
	<i>Tickets valid for Celtic Fling 6/25-26/2016 or Renaissance Faire 8/6-10/30/2016.</i>			
Philadelphia Zoo	<i>General Admission (age 2 & over)</i>	\$23.00	\$18.00	\$5.00
Six Flags GREAT ADVENTURE	<i>Regular (3+) Theme Park</i>	\$77.03	\$40.00	\$37.03
Jackson, NJ	<i>Hurricane Harbor Water Park</i>	\$44.99	\$31.00	\$13.99

Prices subject to change

Sea World Parks - Online sales only, via EZTicket.com website

Busch Gardens Williamsburg	<i>Single Day Adult</i>	\$ 77.00	\$ 57.00	\$ 20.00
	<i>Single Day Child (3-9)</i>	\$ 67.00	\$ 48.00	\$ 19.00
	<i>Fun Card</i>	\$ 77.00	\$ 72.00	\$ 5.00
	<i>Fun Card includes unlimited admission to Busch Gardens Williamsburg from park March 20 - September 5, 2016.</i>			
Water Country USA	<i>Adult</i>	\$ 52.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 17.00
	<i>Child (3-9)</i>	\$ 45.00	\$ 29.00	\$ 16.00
Busch Gardens/Water Country USA 2-Park Flex Ticket		\$ 87.00	\$ 73.00	\$ 14.00
Florida Parks - Choose your Adventure (age 3+)				
	<i>Valid for number of visits indicated to Sea World Orlando, Aquatica Orlando, Busch Gardens Tampa, or Adventure Island Tampa</i>			
	<i>1 Visit</i>	\$ 84.34	\$ 77.00	\$ 7.34
	<i>2 Visits</i>	\$ 105.69	\$ 88.00	\$ 17.69
	<i>3 Visits</i>	\$ 116.36	\$ 96.00	\$ 20.36
	<i>Unlimited Visits for 14 days + Free Parking</i>	\$ 148.39	\$ 122.00	\$ 26.39
Sesame Place Any Day + Meal	<i>Any Day Ticket + One Meal Voucher</i>	\$ 69.55	\$ 54.00	\$ 15.55

Due to various limited-time promotions, all EZTicket prices are subject to change throughout the season. Please check website for current pricing.

Chester Creek Watershed: more info at www.crcwatersheds.org

Annual CRC Streams Cleanup (This included Goose Creek Park.)
Record Participation for the 19th Annual CRC Streams Cleanup

Nearly 700 Volunteers Remove over 7 Tons of Trash

The 19th Annual CRC Streams Cleanup on April 30, 2016 featured a record-setting crowd of 693 volunteers, the most ever in the event's history. The volunteers met at thirty sites throughout the region and collected nearly 15,000 pounds of trash. This year's total brings the cumulative amount of trash removed during the 19 cleanups to nearly 620,000 pounds.

Volunteers always find some bizarre items and this year was no different. "Highlights" included a scooter, hula hoop, lawnmower, sink, grocery cart, bicycle, wheelbarrow, and several lawn chairs.

The event couldn't happen without the great support of sponsors, and the commitment of 30 volunteer site coordinators, the CRC board, and hundreds of volunteers on the day of the event. Thank you to all who made this day possible. We are already looking forward to next spring for our 20th Annual CRC Streams Cleanup!

Mosquito Repellent Plants

Fight mosquitos naturally! Add these plants into your garden for not only their colorful and fragrant display, but also their ability to keep those uninvited mosquitoes out.



Citronella

Citronella is a beautiful perennial clumping grass that emits a strong aroma. That aroma masks other scents, and keeps mosquitoes from being attracted to things located around it. Citronella is very easy to grow, and can get to be a very tall 5 or 6 feet high! You can grow citronella in pots and place it around a porch or patio, or you can plant it directly in a yard or garden bed.



Rosemary

Rosemary is an herb that many of us are very familiar with and their woody scent is exactly what keeps mosquitoes as well as cabbage moths and carrot flies away. They do best in hot and dry climates and thrive in containers, which may be ideal for areas with winters. They can also be pruned into all sorts of shapes and sizes and make great borders or decorations. While the pests stay away you can enjoy the herb's scent and also use it to season your cooking. This plant has pretty blue flowers and does well in sun or in partial shade.



Basil

Basil is another herb that can also double as a pest repellent. The pungent smell the basil leaves give off are what keep pests at bay. This herb likes to be kept damp, needs good drainage, and enjoys lots of sun. You can plant basil in containers or in the garden, alone or with other flowers, as long as both plants meet the same requirements.



Lavender

Lavender is a gorgeous purple flowering plant with a soothing, calming scent. This plant is very tough and drought-resistant once established, and only needs full sun and good drainage. And while it can endure many climates, it thrives in warmer areas.



Marigolds

Marigolds are a bright, hardy annual plant and are a great choice for repelling mosquitoes. Marigolds contain Pyrethrum, an ingredient found in many insect repellents. They have a unique aroma which bugs find repulsive. The flowers themselves are beautiful and can make a great border or addition to any flower bed!

Chester County Health Department offers advice on prevention of mosquito-borne diseases

Make you and your home a bite-free zone

Now that the weather is warming up, the Chester County Health Department encourages county residents to “Make you and your home a bite-free zone”, reducing the risk of mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile virus and Zika virus. Because mosquito-borne diseases are spread through the bite of an infected mosquito, residents can reduce their risk by using insect repellent and other personal protection and getting rid of standing water on their property.

The Health Department advises:

- Stay indoors at dawn and dusk during warmer months. Most types of mosquitoes bite most frequently during these times, although some types of mosquitoes bite most frequently during the daytime.
- Dress in long sleeves, long pants, and socks. Choose clothing that is light colored and made of tightly woven material.
- Use insect repellents containing active ingredients registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for use on skin and clothing.
- Products containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, and some oil of lemon eucalyptus and para-menthane-diol products provide longer-lasting protection.
- Follow manufacturer instructions when applying repellent.
- Wear permethrin-treated clothing or spray your clothing with permethrin, which repels mosquitoes and lasts through 70-100 washings.

Jeanne Casner, Director of the Chester County Health Department noted: “Mosquitoes lay eggs in standing water – water that does not flow. Getting rid of standing water on your property can help decrease the mosquito population, your risk of getting a mosquito-borne disease, and may also help decrease the need for mosquito control sprays in your neighborhood.”

The Health Department also encourages the public to:

- Cover or empty containers such as trash cans, wading pools, wheelbarrows, and pots.
- Turn containers upside down when not in use so they don’t collect water.
- Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers.
- Get rid of old tires.
- Change the water in bird baths every three to five days.
- Check storm drains, window wells, and underneath leaky faucets for standing water.
- Clean roof gutters every year.
- Aerate and/or stock ornamental ponds with fish.
- Keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated. Make sure that water does not gather on swimming pool covers.
- Treat a pool of standing water that cannot be drained with Bti products. Bti is a naturally-occurring bacterial product that kills mosquito larvae and is safe for people, pets, aquatic life, and plants. You can find these products at local lawn and garden supply stores.
- Make sure that window and door screens fit tightly to keep mosquitoes out of your home.
- Run electric fans nearby when spending time outdoors. Mosquitoes have trouble flying in strong winds.
- Replace outdoor lights with yellow "bug" lights, which tend to attract fewer mosquitoes than ordinary lights.

For more information on preventing mosquito-borne diseases, visit www.chesco.org/mosquitoes or call 610-344-6490.



Summer Safety Tips for Pet Parents from Trixie

1. **Fireworks and Thunderstorms:** Loud noises are one of the top reasons pets go missing, so secure your pet in an escape proof place.
2. **Sun & Heat:** High summer temperatures and bright days can mean dehydration, overheating, and scorched paws. Know the signs of overheating and bring your pup indoors or to a cool, shady place.
3. **Toxic Chemicals:** Insecticides, citronella products, and glow sticks are toxic to pets. Keep your pet away from areas where chemicals have been sprayed and ensure dangerous products are out of reach.
4. **Parties and Barbeques:** If your pet's joining the party, make sure guests don't feed your pet human food (especially grapes, onions, avocado, and chocolate) and ensure alcoholic drinks are out of your pet's reach.
5. **Hot Cars:** Even with the windows open an inch, a car's temperature can reach over 100 degrees in ten minutes on an 85 degree day. One quick errand can turn dangerous in minutes, so leave your pet safely at home.

Property Owners Must Register Rentals

Many property owners may not realize that all rental properties must be registered with the Township.

The code does provide for penalties to be assessed for those who do not register.

Thornbury Township Code, Chapter 96 states "It shall be the duty of the owner of every rental within the Township to prepare and file a semi-annual report with the Township Secretary which shall contain the complete name and address of each person 18 years of age and older who is currently residing in each rental unit owned by the person required to file the report."

If you are not registered with the Township please call Teresa DeStefano at 610-399-1425 for a **Rental Registration Form**. If your property is registered, please continue to update the Township with any change of tenants.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Staying Safe This Summer from Fire Marshal Dave Smiley

General Grill Safety:

- Do not place an operating grill next to your house
- Place grills where they will not tip over or ignite objects above them
- Keep grills away from open windows and doors
- Do not use grills under awnings or car ports
- Do not place within 15 feet of combustible materials
- NEVER use gasoline to start a fire
- Store unused charcoal coals in a dry, well ventilated area
- Always use caution when lighting a grill.

Did you know?

- It's estimated that grill fires cause 10 deaths, 100 injuries and \$37 million in losses per year
- 74% of all children's camping injuries are campfire related.

Burn Care

Cool the burn area under cool running water for 10-15 minutes or until the pain subsides. Don't put ice on the burn.

Cover the burn with a sterile bandage.

Take an over-the-counter pain reliever.

Bringing Music History to the Battlefield

Originally Posted by **ChaddsFordLive** on April 4th, 2016 Reprinted by permission Richard Schwartzman

The sound of pipe organ music might begin wafting through the air along the Brandywine Battlefield some-time this year.

Randell Spackman, owner of Thornbury Farms, has four sets of pipes, two controllers, and a pair of air blowers in his barn and is eager to put them all together and have some organ music concerts. He said he's already been talking with people at the Sanderson Museum in the hopes of having a square dance at his barn this summer.

Chris Sanderson used to have square dances there, and Spackman sees this as a way to bring back more of the farm's history. The farm was also a part of the battlefield during the 1777 Battle of Brandywine.

Getting the organ up and running is not a sudden passing fancy for Spackman. Coming into possession of the individual pieces has happened over time and is based on his love of the sound.

"I always had a love for pipe organs, the complexity of them. The music [tonal range] was always so full. It has a depth that speakers can't bring out," he said.

Spackman, like his late father, Tom, before him, has an abiding interest in preserving the history of the farm and the region, and his interest in the organ falls into that category.

"As I learned about them, I became more inquisitive, and I learned about some organ parts that were going to be cut up and made into tables. I bought them to save them," Spackman said.

With a little help from friends and others who share his enthusiasm, Spackman formed Thornbury Pipe Organ, a non-profit organization of volunteers who will refurbish and reassemble all the equipment to bring the full rich sound back to life in a place that's not a normal concert hall.

"My idea is to have concerts, events, and just have people be able to play the organ here in a different atmosphere... The people who learned about me wanting to have my own pipe organ really identified with that."

As word spread through a variety of organizations, Spackman learned of other pieces' becoming available, how they work and what work would be needed to get those various elements working together.

One of the consoles — the part that contains the keyboard and other controls — came from a church in Georgia. That one piece alone weighs a half a ton, he said, and will help control the entire organ, which, he added, will actually be four organs in one.

A second console was designed to play music during the old silent movie days, something Spackman said he wants to be able to do at the barn: show old silent movies and have someone play the organ during the showing.

The four organs are the four sets of pipes, Spackman explained, and they are the valuable part of the organ.

"The consoles are how you work the pipes. They're the interface. But the soul of the organ is the pipes."

He has more than 5,000 pipes, some as small as a pencil, others 16 to 18 feet tall, he said.

"Each organ has a story, like a baby book, and I think I'm only the steward," Spackman said. "A couple of people



Randell Spackman, with one of the organ consoles, wants to start holding pipe organ concerts in his barn at Thornbury Farm. How long it will take to get the entire organ working is uncertain.

Seasonal Reminders:

Let Nature Fertilize Your Lawn

Allow your grass clippings to fertilize your lawn. Grass clippings contain nitrogen and phosphorus which fertilizers your lawn naturally. This may eliminate the need to use chemical fertilizers which can damage our waterways. Clippings may also be used for composting.

To be sure that your yard is receiving the nutrients it needs, test your soil. Contact the local Penn State Extension office to order a soil test kit for \$12.00 at 610-696-3500.



Roadway Property Maintenance

Each homeowner in our Township is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of their property along state and Township roads. Cutting back vegetation and keeping this area free of litter, especially after storms, is the key to maintaining the attractive nature of our community. Summer is the time for beautifying and keeping our roads safe.

Continued from page 6: “Bringing Music History to the Battlefield”

wanted to buy parts of them, but I don’t want to do that because I want the organs’ integrity to be whole. Once they’re split up, they’re gone forever.”



Two sets of pipes are in the rafters. Another two still need to be installed.

And what he has, he said, is unique.

“There are only about seven organs like this in the country. It’s very rare to have this eclectic type of combination,” he said.

One of the four organs dates back to the 1880s. That will be incorporated with the other pipes, one dating back to the 1920s, and another that was made in 1918. One set of pipes came from the old Prince Theater in Philadelphia, he said. Spackman bought pieces as they became available, a process he likened to buying a car one piece at a time, a tire today, a fender tomorrow.

In getting everything ready for the types of concert experience that Spackman envisions, the volunteers of Thornbury Pipe Organ would have a lot to do. He said there’s a lot of wires that need to be soldered to valves, thousands of pipes to be cleaned and other pieces sorted, among other things. They also need to get a five-

horsepower air blower to work properly so it can deliver the right amount of air through the pipes.

When asked how long that might take, Spackman laughed and referenced an old TV commercial, “That would be like asking how many licks you need to get to the center of a Tootsie Pop.”

After the joke, he said getting everything up and running together would take several years.

One point that can’t be avoided is economics. It takes money to get it all done. Spackman said the word is getting out and that had resulted in some donations. He speculated that it would take about \$100,000 to get the organ operational. Replacing it, though, would cost about \$2 million, he said.

Donations are coming in, he said, and more people are offering to help with the work. That could shorten the time frame, but Spackman can’t yet say how much time can be saved.

The next step for Thornbury Pipe Organ, he said, is to become “a consistent volunteer organization with people who are passionate about preserving our musical heritage and mechanical music.” Anyone interested in helping out or learning more by taking a tour should contact Spackman at www.thornburyfarmcsa.com or by phoning 610-793-2933.

**Thornbury Township,
Chester County**

8 Township Drive
Cheyney, PA 19319

Phone: (610) 399-1425

Fax: (610) 399-6714

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8 am—3 pm, M—F



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I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

Hearing from you, our residents and businesses of Thornbury Township, keeps me on my toes!

If you have any comments, questions or ideas regarding this newsletter, please take a minute to contact me at 610-399-1425 or you can email me at:

tdestefano@thornburytwp.com

Sincerely,

Teresa DeStefano, Editor