

# THE GANDER THE NEWSLETTER OF THORNBURY



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## The Chairman's Corner

Spring has arrived in Thornbury Township! And with it, our thoughts have turned to picnics, recycling, and (of course) sewers. The highlight of the spring so far has been the Annual Thornbury Township Egg Hunt which took place on April 9<sup>th</sup> at the Goose Creek Park. Thanks to a lot of hard work by Lauren Durham and her wonderful Parks and Recreation Commission, this year's event was our biggest and best ever! We can't thank these terrific volunteers (including our own Teresa DeStefano) for the countless hours of work they put in to make this and our other township events such a success. We also wanted to thank Teresa for coordinating the April 16<sup>th</sup> Earth Day Cleanup event with the CRC Watershed at Goose Creek Park

This spring we will also re-focus our efforts to increase the volume and efficiency of recycling efforts in the township. Township residents and businesses recycled a total of 525.7 tons of material in 2010. After successfully completing passage of the new Recycling Ordinance, we are now positioned to better regulate and monitor recycling in the township. We continue to encourage recycling by all of our residents, educate residents on their recycling options, and to identify better and less expensive ways for all of us to engage in this important activity.

We are going to resurface a portion of S. Westbourne Road later this year (at a cost of about \$100,000 and in order to assure that the new surface doesn't decay we need to make some storm water control improvements. In the next few months, road and roadside pipe replacement may produce some mess and a few inconveniences, but I hope you will bear with us. This work is part of our program to repair a small portion of township roads each year.

We have applied for grant funding from Chester County and the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, to start the first phase of construction for Squire Cheyney Park. The grant awards are expected to be announced in the fall of 2011. If the Township receives the grant award, construction would be able to start in 2012.

Squire Cheyney Park consists of 52 acres of Township owned land and is part of the historic property of Squire Thomas Cheyney. The property is home to an historic barn and the former house of Squire Thomas Cheyney, who had an important role in the 1777 Battle of the Brandywine, and subsequent public service in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The property is currently used to grow crops as a suburban area farm, and the long term plans for the property include passive recreational, historic, and agricultural/natural uses.

The first phase of construction for Squire Cheyney Park would include pedestrian and bicycle trails which would circulate the perimeter of a farming area, and connect into neighboring trail systems. This would include approximately 1.5 miles of walking trail with trailside features including wetlands, a historic springhouse, agricultural land, historic and natural educational signs, and beautiful natural viewsheds. Throughout the trail, we plan to locate resting areas consisting of benches and educational/interpretive signs that describe the historic and natural features of the property.

Finally, the State DEP has sent a notification that the Township was awarded a \$275,000 grant for the College Hill Sewer Project. This represents the last portion of funding needed to implement the project and bring long-needed public wastewater management to the College Hill neighborhood. Many thanks to Senator Dominic Pileggi and his staff, who did a great job to help us receive the DEP grant. This grant is an important step forward on the Project, as we now have three major sources of funding, including an earlier US EPA grant for \$250,000, the DEP grant, and a \$50,000 contribution from Orleans Builders. With a modest contribution from the College Hill residents we will have enough money to provide public sewer to the neighborhood. Our efforts now turn to the thousand details required to make this project a reality. We hope to have pipes in the ground in late 2012.

And as always, a reminder that you are always welcome to share with us your thoughts and concerns on these and other township matters. We welcome your attendance at our Monthly Board of Supervisors Meetings and Work Meetings. Keep up with township activities through our website or email notification process (just call the township offices to get connected). Support our township businesses and remember to recycle.

And have a wonderful spring and summer,

Mike Gast



## **POLICE OFFICER SPOTLIGHT**

### **WEGO Officer of the Year: Michael O'Brien**



Officer O'Brien is a 2 ½ year veteran of the Westtown-East Goshen Regional Police Department and is assigned to the Patrol Division. Officer O'Brien attended Malvern Prep and received his BS from Lynchburg College in Virginia. He graduated in 2008 from the Delaware County Police Academy. His hobbies include weight training and playing softball.

## **Protect yourself, your family and your pets**



*Lyme Disease Awareness*  
Chester County Health Department  
[www.chesco.org/health](http://www.chesco.org/health)

## **Theft Advisory**



Recently, the Westtown- East Goshen Regional Police Department has noticed an increase in the number of incidents where items are stolen out of parked vehicles. Oftentimes these crimes are crimes of opportunity and as such can be prevented and the criminals can be deterred through simple crime prevention methods. In order to reduce the likelihood of becoming a victim of theft the police department would like to suggest the following tips:

- 1) **Lock your vehicle when you park it.**
- 2) **Don't leave items of value in plain sight inside your vehicle.** Preferably remove these items and take them with you when you park your car. If this is not possible, attempt to place the items in an inconspicuous location such as under the seat, in the trunk, or in the glove box. This includes things that might suggest valuable items being in your vehicle such as a windshield mounted GPS holder even if the GPS unit is not in it.
- 3) If your vehicle is to be parked overnight try to **park in an area with an unobstructed view** (i.e. not right next to bushes, in a well lit area, consider using motion lights to help deter anyone from approaching your car under the cover of darkness).
- 4) Lastly, please **report any suspicious activity** that you observe by calling 911.

## **Safety Tips by Fire Marshall Dave Smiley**

### **Guidelines for Controlled Yard Waste Burns**

If you are planning to burn, make sure you do so in a safe and legal manner. Chapter 68 of the Thornbury Township Code mandates the following guidelines for controlled yard waste burns:



**Burning restricted:** It is unlawful to burn, authorize or permit to burn paper, commercial wood products, rubbish and other waste out of doors within the Township, unless the fire is confined within an enclosed container, incinerator or fireplace and an adult individual remains in attendance during the burning. Leaves, logs and yard waste may be incinerated outside of a container or fireplace, subject to the regulations set forth herein.

Any fire on public or private property may be extinguished by local fire company or police having jurisdiction, with or without the consent of the landowner, his/her agents or workman, if, within the option of a township police officer or Fire Marshall, such fire constitutes a danger to persons or property.

## Shredding Event

Saturday June 25, 2011

10:00 a.m. -1:00 p.m.



Protect your identity- shred your unneeded personal documents!

Wiggins Shredding will be at the Thornbury Township municipal building on Saturday June 25 from 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. shredding your personal documents for **FREE!**



**To avoid the 10% penalty, your 2011 Thornbury Township Real Estate Tax should be paid by June 30, 2011.**

**GO GREEN**  
**WITH THE E-GANDER NEWSLETTER!**  
Sign up at [www.thornburytwp.com](http://www.thornburytwp.com)



## Trevor Talks

According to Chapter 56 of the Thornbury Township Code, dog owners are responsible for cleaning up after their dogs in all public spaces. First offenders can be fined \$25.00. The Township provides bags for dog waste pickup and trash cans for disposal. Please make sure that our park continues to be a safe and clean place for our dogs and their human friends by picking up after your pet.



**WHEN YOU'RE WASHING YOUR CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY, REMEMBER YOU'RE NOT JUST WASHING YOUR CAR IN THE DRIVEWAY.**

[www.DelawareEstuary.org](http://www.DelawareEstuary.org)



When you wash your car, all the soap, scum and oily grit runs along the curb and into storm drains and the Schuylkill and Delaware Rivers. This causes pollution which is unhealthy for people and fish. Please wash your car on grass or gravel instead of the street or your driveway. Or better yet, take it to a car wash where the water gets treated and recycled.

Thanks to the Washington State Department of Ecology, King County, and the cities of Bellevue, Seattle, and Tacoma.

### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Wash your car on a grassy area if possible, so the ground can filter the water naturally. Use soap sparingly. Try to use non-phosphate detergents.
- Use a hose that is high pressure, low volume and has a pistol grip or trigger nozzle to save water. Wash one section of the car at a time and rinse it quickly.
- When you're done, empty your bucket of soapy water down the sink, not in the street.
- Best of all, take your car to a commercial car wash, especially if you plan to clean the engine or the bottom of the car. Most car washes reuse water several times before sending it for treatment at a sewage treatment plant.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THESE WEB SITES:

- [www.delcocc.org](http://www.delcocc.org)
- [www.chesco.org](http://www.chesco.org)
- [www.pa.dep.us](http://www.pa.dep.us)

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## The Beehive, Early Quaker Farmhouse

The Beehive, an early Quaker stone farmhouse, standing only 30 ft. off of South Concord Rd., at the north end of Brinton Lake Rd., dates back to the late 17<sup>th</sup> c. when this area was first settled by Europeans. For over 300 years it has witnessed the entire history of our township. It is one of the oldest houses in Chester County.

The story starts with Richard Woodward, Sr. who in 1687 bought 230 acres from John Simcocke, who had bought 5000 acres from William Penn. In 1698 Richard Sr. deeded a 130 acre parcel to his son, Richard, Jr., but this wasn't recorded until 1703. The next year, 1704, the local Court ordered South Concord Rd. to be built running toward the "county town", Upland (now Chester).

The Beehive has Late Medieval architectural characteristics. The pitch of the roof is quite steep, rising 14 vertical on 12 horizontal, steeper than later houses. The floor plan is called Hall and Parlor, since it had just two rooms on the ground floor, separated by a walnut board partition. The Hall has an 11 ft. wide fireplace, the Parlor's is only five ft. wide. The original windows were leaded casements with small glass panes. The ground level windows are surmounted by segmental arches in the stone work, wider than the later windows. The Woodward house is very similar in size, dimension and shape to the nearby 1704 Brinton House. Both were very large for the period, approximately 40 ft. x 20 ft. in plan and two stories with basements. Both houses were built from the same quarry with similar masonry, coursed horizontally, in a brick like manner, unlike the later random field stone construction. The east side springhouse is likely the oldest part of the house, dating to the late 1600s. It has on its south side an 8 ft. roof overhang, which shades the south wall from the sun.

Richard Sr. had eight children. His daughter, Mary, just before her death in 1790 at the age of 102, "remembered when her father and others deaded the timber, and burned the leaves, and hoed in their wheat by hand, there being few horses and scarce a plow in the settlement; that the natives were very kind to them, supplying them with bear's meat, venison, wild fowl, eggs in plenty, ...." Richard Jr., was married in 1695. By 1701 he was a widower and remarried. He sold the house in 1724, and bought 1,000 acres north of what is now Marshalltown There he built an "up-to-date" two-story brick house. Its date stone says "RW 1728".

After the Woodwards, the house was in the Benjamin Cock family for three generations. In 1787 the house was bought by Caleb Brinton for his son, beginning over 115 years of ownership by the Brinton family, lasting until 1902. Caleb, one of the richest men of Chester Co., probably changed the windows to new double hung sash and c 1790-1800 built a large kitchen addition to the north side of the original house. Today this addition has a long sloping roof. Other additions to the building have been put on in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Lang's, "custodians" of the Beehive since 1983, designed and put on a modern kitchen wing with lots of windows on the NW corner of the house in 1990, and in 2000 a brick master suite on NE corner.



There is no record of why the old farmhouse is called the Beehive. For our rural predecessors a beehive symbolized hard work, industriousness and a saving for the future. Certainly the Beehive represents all those things, as well as the beauty of age, and the record of our township's entire history.

**This article is the third in a series on historic properties included in the Thornbury Township Historic Resources Survey, on view at the township office.**

## Thornbury Gets Funds for College Hill Sewers

Thornbury Township has been awarded grant funding in the amount of \$525,000 to be used to install sewers in the College Hill area. Former Congressman Joe Sestak was instrumental in securing a federal grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) totaling \$250,000. State Senator Domenic Pileggi was extremely helpful in identifying a possible source of State grant funding, and then aiding in making it come to fruition. The grant was for \$275,000 from Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). The Township is grateful to both of these elected officials for their help. The College Hill Sewer Project has been in the works for some years, but it has only been in the last three and a half years that the Board of Supervisors has been very proactive in applying for grant money. Former Township Manager Cary Vargo worked with Supervisor Mike Gast to apply for and follow up on the EPA grant and current Township Manager Brody Bovero and Mike Gast worked to obtain the DEP grant.

The sewer project will connect houses on College Hill Drive, Creek Road, and County Lane to sewer lines that will feed into a new wastewater treatment plant on the grounds of Cheyney University. Not only will it help residents whose on-lot systems are aging or failing, but it will also create input to the treatment plant in the summer when Cheyney is closed, thus helping to make the operation of the plant more efficient all year round.

The project is currently in the planning and initial engineering phase. It is expected it will be completed in approximately one year. Township staff and engineers have begun the process of keeping residents informed as to some of the issues involved so as to get their input as well as providing a status of the work to be done.

## TAX FACTS

Nearby Townships	Real Estate Tax Rate (mills)	Tax Paid on \$285,000 Property (Assessed Value)
Thornbury Twp, Chester County	0.84	\$239
Westtown Twp	2.5	\$712
East Goshen Twp	1.25	\$356
Birmingham Twp	1.6	\$456
Pennsbury Twp	1.49	\$424
Willistown Twp	0.28	\$80
Concord Twp (Delaware County)	0.925	\$264
Thornbury Twp (Delaware County)	0.0	\$0.0

### Upcoming Township Meetings

**July**

Park & Recreation	7th @ 5:30pm
Planning Commission	11th @ 7pm
Historic Preservation Commission	13th @ 7pm
Board of Supervisors	19th @ 7pm

**August**

Board of Supervisors Work Session	2nd @ 6pm
Parks & Recreation Commission	4th @ 5:30pm
Planning Commission	8th @ 7pm
Historic Preservation Commission	10th @ 7:30pm
Board of Supervisors	16th @ 7pm

**September**

Parks & Recreation Commission	1st @ 5:30pm
Board of Supervisors Work Session	6th @ 6pm
Planning Commission	12th @ 7pm
Historic Preservation Commission	14th @ 7:30pm
Board of Supervisors	20th @ 7pm

All meetings are held at the Township Building and are open to the public.

Family Friendly



BYOB, but serving Beer

The deck is now open!

goose creek

GRILL

Serving breakfast, lunch & dinner

610-399-0900

840 East Street Rd • West Chester, PA 19380

### Cheyney University Breaks Ground On New Science Center



Thornbury Township Supervisor Mike Gast (pictured in center) celebrates the groundbreaking of the University's new science center with representatives of Cheyney University and the PA System of Higher Education. The 40,000 sq ft facility will include classrooms, labs, a planetarium and observatory.

### Recycling Drop Off Center Reminders



Reminder: Only the recycling dumpster at Town Center (center of photo) is available to the public. The two trash dumpsters are for the tenants at Town Center.

Thank You.

### Destination Word Search Puzzle

- |                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Brinton Village     | Shops at Dilworthtown    |
| Brian's House       | Springhouse at Thornbury |
| Goose Creek Grill   | Concept School           |
| Westtown Station    | Thornbury Knoll          |
| Squire Cheyney Park | Bainbridge               |
| Waln Run Park       | Fox Meadow               |
| Deer Pointe         | Brandywine at Thornbury  |
| Thornbury Estates   | Sage Hill                |
| Greens at Penn Oaks | Cheyney University       |
| The Beehive         |                          |

### Destinations in Thornbury Township Chester County

L S C G T H O R N B U R Y K N O L L B K Y S  
 L Q J C H O L N A E V K O J W M Y V J F P U  
 B R A N D Y W I N E A T T H O R N B U R Y L  
 E C N L X T N A O V R U C G T S X D I E B U  
 B U D W F B E V I H E E B E H T L N B O V S  
 G F P H R T B O N C C M S T T K G J E K S Z  
 O D J I Q X H J I A T U A U R H O S M J N W  
 O B D L O O H C S T P E C N O C V S T I K H  
 S G P R C W U Q V D P O F U W H O U Z K R A  
 E R P S U P M Q Q G D C S G L S S E U U A L  
 C H E Y N E Y U N I V E R S I T Y N C Y P X  
 R Q D G V S T C Q I A W A D D G Y J A O N W  
 E U H U N O I T A T S N W O T T S E W I U O  
 E G R E E N S A T P E N N O A K S W X F R S  
 K S V S A G E H I L L V W U S H T J M O N B  
 G B R I N T O N V I L L A G E U P A M X L F  
 R S Q U I R E C H E Y N E Y P A R K K M A S  
 I F A E N Z X J E D D E E R P O I N T E W Z  
 L T H B D P R V B K T H V U O T Y A B A P S  
 L B U C L O N C L S W U H O H H Q K O D X N  
 E R A H K R A P K E E R C E S O O G A O K Y  
 Y D X P B W Q Z O P E Q B Y W Q E P A W B J



Contact Information

Board of Supervisors

<u>Mike Gast</u> - Chairman: mgast@thornburytwp.com	610-399-1425 x202
<u>Robert Miller</u> - Vice Chair: rmiller@thornburytwp.com	610-399-1425 x 205
<u>Robert Anthony</u> - banthony@thornburytwp.com	610-399-1425 x 203
<u>Ed Travis</u> - etravis@thornburytwp.com	610-399-5032
<u>Percy Neall</u>	610-399-1425

Staff

<u>Brody Bovero</u> - Twp. Manager: bbovero@thornburytwp.com	610-399-1425 x 103
<u>Dee Ann Manley</u> - dmanley@thornburytwp.com Assistant Treasurer, Permit Coordinator, Tax Collector	610-399-1425 x 102
<u>Teresa DeStefano</u> - tdestefano@thornburytwp.com Sub-Division and Land Development, Secretary	610-399-1425 x 101
<u>Mike Aiello</u> - Road Master- maiello@thornburytwp.com	610-399-1425 x 206

SEASONAL REMINDERS

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. Spring is the time for beautifying and keeping our roads safe.

**CRC's 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Chester Creek Earth Day Cleanup was held on Saturday, April 16, 2011**

CRC provided gloves and trash bags.

Thornbury Township had 15 volunteers at the Goose Creek Park. Many thanks to Janet Reynolds Brandywine Valley CISV. The Junior Branch had 10 youths participate in the clean up.

They collected 15 bags of trash including 3 tires, street signs and furniture, totaling **800 pounds of trash**.

Thank You everyone!



**Thornbury Township,  
Chester County**

8 Township Drive  
Cheyney, PA 19319

**Phone:** (610) 399-1425

**Fax:** (610) 399-6714

**Office Hours:**

8 am—3 pm, M—F

**We're on the Web!**

**[www.thornburytp.com](http://www.thornburytp.com)**

Board of Supervisors

Mike Gast, Chairman, Parks and Recreation  
Liaison

Robert Miller, V. Chair, Treasurer  
Ed Travis, Planning Commission Liaison,  
Police Commissioner & Historic Preservation  
Liaison

Robert Anthony  
Percy Neall

Auditors

Phillip Dewey, Chairperson  
Libby Murach, Vice Chair  
Anne Connolly

Planning Commission

Brooks Durham, Chair  
Peter DuFault, V. Chair

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Patrick Karnick  
Barbara Iacovelli  
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Bev Egbert  
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Kris Walker  
Richard Webster  
Tom Spackman  
Molly Morrison  
Vacant

Brody Bovero, Twp. Mgr.  
Dee Ann Manley, Assistant  
Treasurer/Bookkeeper  
Teresa DeStefano, Twp. Secretary

Road Master  
Mike Aiello

Fire Marshal  
F. David Smiley

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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West Chester, PA  
PERMIT NO. 491

## 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 email: [tdestefano@thornburytp.com](mailto:tdestefano@thornburytp.com)

Sincerely,  
Teresa DeStefano, Editor  
***The Gander***