

Honey Brook Township

CHESTER COUNTY, PA

Volume 8, Issue 2

Fall/Winter 2017

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Board of Supervisors

Lost an Item?

The Township Administration Building has a "Lost and Found" collection of items, mostly left behind at the James A. Umble Memorial Park. If you have lost an item, check with the office during normal business hours.

Dear Residents and Friends,

The Honey Brook Township Board of Supervisors is pleased to present this latest issue of our Township News. Thanks to the sponsorship of the advertisers in this publication, this newsletter has been produced at no cost to our residents. The Board sincerely thanks these members of the business community for their generosity and support and encourages you to support these businesses with your patronage.

We suggest you keep this newsletter for future reference, as it contains important information about activities in the upcoming months. Up-to-date information is always available on the Township's website at www.honeybrooktwp.com.

Please contact our Township staff at 610-273-3970 if you have any questions regarding the information contained in this issue or about the services the Township provides.

Sincerely,

The Honey Brook Township Board of Supervisors



John McHugh, Chairman Travis Stacey, Member Tracy Olsen, Vice-Chairman

The Board of Supervisors consists of three members elected at-large for staggered six-year terms. The Board is the Executive and Legislative branch of the Township's government that is responsible for establishing policy, adopting ordinances, regulating land use and overseeing the Township's finances. The Board holds a workshop meeting the Thursday prior to their regular business meeting. The regular meeting is on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 pm. The sole exception to this is the January meeting, which will take place on January 2, 2018 at 7:00 pm..

The Board also appoints residents to a variety of other boards, committees and commissions. Listed on page 4 are the most active groups and their meeting schedules. Please contact the Township Administration Office if you are interested in serving on one of these bodies.

Mission & Vision

Honey Brook Township was incorporated on February 24, 1789, from the western part of West Nantmeal Township. It is classified as a township of the second class, with a Board of three Supervisors elected at-large for six-year terms.

The following mission and vision statements were adopted in 2004:

The mission of the Board of Supervisors of Honey Brook Township shall be to provide municipal services related to land use, police protection and public works in order to maintain a community that supports a tranquil and rural way of life. The vision of the Board of Supervisors for the future of Honey Brook Township is that the Township shall remain a predominantly agricultural community that surrounds a population hub offering various commercial and social activities. The vision includes the establishment of a land preservation program, concentration of non-agricultural uses along specific portions of major arterials, betterment of current low-income housing areas, upgrading of all governmental and quasi-governmental facilities, reduction of non-local traffic in congested areas, and exploration of Township and Borough integration.

Attention:

We strive to deliver this newsletter to the mailboxes of all Honey Brook Township residents.

If you feel you are missing from our list, please contact the Township Administration Office.

Honey Brook Township Administration Office

500 Suplee Road • P.O. Box 1281

Honey Brook, PA 19344

Phone 610-273-3970

Fax 610.273.3909

Office hours: 9 am-3 pm Monday – Friday • Holiday Closures as announced/posted



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*The sun setting
is no less
beautiful than
the sun rising.*

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24 Hour Phone

Hours by appointment



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General Information

Township Population (2010 census): 7,647
State Roads: 24 miles

Land Area: 25.4 square miles
Township Roads: 52.64 miles

Township Taxes - The Township collects two types of taxes each year. Earned Income Tax, based upon wages, and a real estate tax based upon a property’s assessed valuation.

Earned Income Tax - Keystone Collections Group collects 1% on behalf of the Township and 0.5% on behalf of the Twin Valley School District. The Township portion is used to pay general operation costs and for land preservation. Like your state and federal income taxes, you must file with Keystone by April 15th each year. Forms are available by contacting Keystone Collections Group 610-269-4402. Call 1-866-539-1100 or visit Keystone’s website at <https://www.keystonecollects.com/> to file electronically.

Real Estate Tax* - Residents in Honey Brook Township pay real estate taxes to three agencies.

- 1. **Twin Valley School District** - The School District collects its own real estate tax. The 2017-2018 tax rate is 29.6448 mills for Chester County. Contact the district’s tax office at 610-286-8632 for more information.
- 2. **Chester County** - Chester County collects its own real estate tax (Chester County Treasurer: 610-344-6370). The 2017 tax rate is 4.369 mills. Contact the County Assessment office at 610-344-6105 for more information.
- 3. **Honey Brook Township** - The Chester County Treasurer will also collect the Township’s Real Estate Tax beginning in 2018. The Township’s 2018 tax rate will remain unchanged at 0.98 mills.

**County and Township tax rates take effect January 1; School District tax rates take effect July 1.*



Twin Valley School District (TVSD)

Serving Elverson and Honey Brook Boroughs and Honey Brook and West Nantmeal Townships in Chester County; and New Morgan Borough and Caernarvon and Robeson Townships in Berks County

Address: 100 North Twin Valley Road, Elverson, PA 19520-9310
Phone: 610-286-8600
Fax: 610-286-8608
School tax information: 610-286-8652
Website: www.tvsd.org
Superintendent: Dr. Robert Pleis

Schools

Twin Valley High School	610-286-8600	Honey Brook Elementary Center	610-273-3615
100 North Twin Valley Road, Elverson, PA 19520		1530 West Walnut Street, Honey Brook, PA 19344	
Twin Valley Middle School	610-286-8660	Robeson Elementary	610-582-9580
970 Clymer Hill Road, Elverson, PA 19520		801 White Bear Road, Birdsboro, PA 19508	
Twin Valley Elementary Center	610-286-8670		
50 Mast Drive, Elverson, PA 19520			



General Information (cont.)

Appointed Officials and Staff

Township Manager/Secretary, Steve Landes: Responsible for the day-to-day administration of Township business including finances, budgeting, staff, and provision of Township services.

Public Works Director, Don Johnson: As the head of the Roads Department he is responsible for the maintenance of the Township roads, storm sewers, street signs, and Township buildings and grounds including James A. Umble Memorial Park.

Treasurer, Peter Barsz: Provides detailed accounting of all receipts and expenses, develops and oversees all cash handling and disbursement procedures, and prepares payroll.

Building Code Official/Zoning Officer, Technicon Enterprises Inc.: Responsible for the enforcement of zoning, building and property maintenance codes. The Zoning Officer has office hours on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Administration Office for residents' convenience.

Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC), Robert D. Esposito, Jr.: Prepares plans to protect the community in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Engineer, Michael Reinert, Technicon Enterprises Inc.: Prepares designs for roads, bridges, and storm water systems. Reviews land development and subdivision plans and works closely with the Township Planning Commission and other government and regulatory agencies.

Solicitor, Christopher Hartman, Esq.: Provides the Board of Supervisors and Manager with legal opinions and guidance. Represents the Township in court proceedings.

Solicitor to the Zoning Hearing Board, Kenneth Werner, Esq.: Provides the Zoning Hearing Board with legal opinions and guidance.

Office Staff: Kristy Deischer-Eddy and Kris Bry.

Public Works Staff: Carl Brown, Vince Lark, and Don Mertz.

Township Boards, Committees and Commissions

The **Park and Recreation Board** is an advisory body that makes recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding Township park areas and facilities. It also organizes and conducts a variety of recreation programs and other activities. The Board meets at 7:30 pm on the 3rd Thursday of the month during January through June and August through October.

Lee Heller, *Co-Chair*

Therese Mauchline, *Secretary*

Christine Luke, *Member*

Sheri Zynn, *Co-Chair*

Kevin Wynant, *Member*

Scott Holt, *Member*

R. Allen Hartz, *Member*

The **Planning Commission** is an advisory body that reviews all proposed land development plans and subdivision applications and recommends action to the Board of Supervisors. It also reviews proposed amendments to the Township's zoning and the subdivision & land development regulations. This commission meets at 7 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month from January through October and as announced in November and December. Members are:

Susan Lacy, *Chair*

Leslie Siebert, *Secretary*

Terry Schmidt, *Member*

Gary McEwen, *Vice-Chair*

Melissa Needles, *Member*

Troy Stacey, *Member*

Bob Witters, *Member*

The **Land Preservation Committee** is an advisory body that reviews applications for agricultural conservation easements and recommends farms for preservation to the Board of Supervisors. This committee meets at 7:00 pm on the 3rd Tuesday of odd-numbered months except for the January when the meeting is held at 8:00 am. Members are:

Shane Hadden, *Chair & Secretary*

Susan Lacy, *Member*

Chip Jones, *Assistant Secretary*

John R. Stoltzfus, *Member*

Mike Zook, *Member*

The **Zoning Hearing Board** is a judicial body that hears appeals from landowners seeking relief from zoning regulations and then renders a decision. The Board meets at 7:30 pm on the 3rd Monday of the month **or** as announced on an as-needed basis. Members are:

Frank Fredella, *Chair*

David Rodgers, *Member*

Jeff Emberger, *Member*

Darlene Olear, *Alternate*

All meetings are held in the Township Administration Building. Meeting days and times are subject to change. Check the website for the latest information.

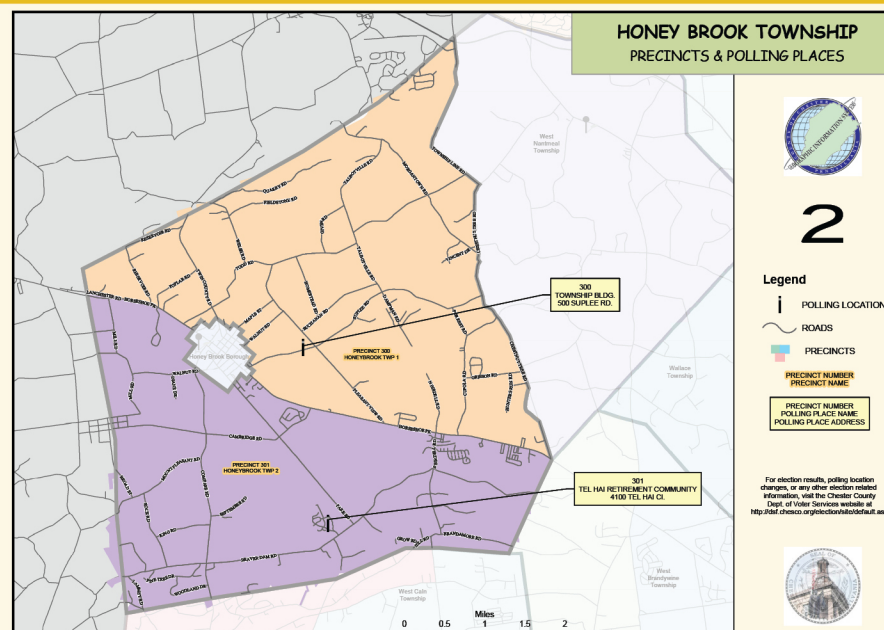
Honey Brook Township Voting Precincts

Precinct 1

(those living south of Route 322):

Polling place:

Tel Hai
Retirement Community
4100 Tel Hai Circle
Honey Brook.



Precinct 2

(those living north of Route 322):

Polling place :

Township Administration
Building
500 Suplee Road
Honey Brook

The 2018 General Primary is May 15, 2018.

To register to vote or for voting questions, please contact Chester County Voter Services at 610-344-6410 or visit www.chesco.org/156/Voter-Services.



General Information (cont.)

2018 Voter Information

Voter Services is the centralized Chester County office to register voters in Chester County. Voters must be registered one month prior to the election in which they wish to vote in order to cast their ballots.

For 2018, voters must be registered:

- by April 16, 2018 to vote in the May 15 General Primary.
- by October 9 to vote in the November 6 General Election.

Civilian absentee ballots may be applied for:

- starting March 26 and must be postmarked no later than May 8 for the May 15 General Primary.
- starting September 17 and must be postmarked no later than October 30 for the November 6 General Election

General Primary is May 15

Land Preservation Update

The Land Preservation Program is an important program used to maintain the Township's agricultural heritage and rural landscape. To date, over 3,900 acres of land has been preserved.

Of the eight new farms recommended for preservation by the Land Preservation Committee in 2016, three have gone to settlement and five more are in the works. The Township share of the cost to preserve these eight farms is about 25 cents for every dollar spent, with Chester County contributing 50 cents and the Brandywine Conservancy contributing 25 cents. Two more farms were approved at the November Board of Supervisors meeting.

The Land Preservation Committee (LPC) meets on odd-numbered months, generally on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. The January meeting is at 8:00 am on January 16, followed by a Farmer's Breakfast at 9:00 am. The public is welcome to attend this free event; however, reservations are required by January 10 at 610-273-3970.

Free Car Seat Safety Checks

The State Police at the Embreeville Barracks, 997 Lieds Road, Coatesville, hold free safety checks for car seats on the second Friday of each month. For more information, call 484-340-3248.

Honey Brook Environmental Group

Honey Brook residents have come together over the past few months to establish a community environmental group. This volunteer group aims to advocate for the beauty and sustainability of our local environment through community involvement, cooperation, and action. Every other Thursday from 4:30-5:30 pm, the group meets at the Honey Brook Borough Building, 73 Pequea Avenue. The group gathers its gloves, bags, etc. and heads out to designated areas around town to pick up trash and recyclables. In addition to regular clean-up days, the Honey Brook Environmental Group collaborated with the Park & Recreation Committee on various projects, including planting trees at James A. Umble Park on October 14 and the Great American Cleanup on April 29 (see wrap-up on page 10)!

This is an innovative and fun opportunity for residents of all ages anyone and everyone to get involved with a wonderful cause and also enjoy time with friends, neighbors, and family.

For more information, contact Tierra Graham, group manager, at (484) 798-5582 or tierragraham1998@gmail.com.



Outdoor Burning

Outdoor burning of municipal waste, leaf waste, yard waste, or recyclable materials that are required to be separated and collected (newspaper, cardboard, clear glass, and plastics) is PROHIBITED. Small controlled fires, such as campfires, are not prohibited, but toxic materials of any kind cannot be burned at any time. Any and all fires shall be monitored at all times and one should keep a source of water nearby in case of emergency.

The Right-to-Farm Act does not prohibit farmers on farms of over 5 acres from carrying out normal and customary activities of farming operations, which occasionally includes open burning. However, a farmer may NOT burn municipal waste, leaves, plastic, or recyclables generated from a residential unit on the farm or from any other residential property. The Right-to-Farm Act also permits the use of newspaper for bedding for farm animals, and the composting and spreading of manure or other farm-produced agricultural wastes, provided that such activities are conducted in accordance with all applicable laws, rules, and regulations.





General Information (cont.)

State Roads

The following roads in Honey Brook Township are maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT): Route 10 (Compass Road south of the Borough/Twin County Road north of the Borough), Route 322 (Horseshoe Pike), Cambridge Road, Chestnut Tree Road, Isabella Road, Maple Street (from Borough line to intersection with White School and Pleasant View Roads), Morgantown Road (between Chestnut Tree and White School Roads), South Birdell Road, and White School Road.

To report concerns on state roads, contact PennDOT at 1-800-FIX-ROAD (349-7623) or 610-340-3200. To check conditions on state roads, visit www.511PA.com.



Honey Brook Community Partnership

HONEY BROOK COMMUNITY HARMONY DAY 2017: COUNTRY FAIR AT THE FIRE COMPANY FAIRGROUNDS

The Honey Brook Community in Partnership (HBCP), the group behind the Honey Brook Community Harmony Day, held a country fair at Honey Brook Fire Company grounds on Saturday, September 19.

The stage featured entertainment by the Ringing Hill Chorus, ReMix Dance, Russell's Baton, Fox Music Den, and an appearance by the Chester County Dairy Princess. Businesses and organizations had booths in the stalls, tables were set up by a variety of vendors, and there was a rock climbing wall and pony rides for the kids. Bingo games were held in the picnic area. The Honey Brook Community Library also had its annual yard sale.

New this year was a Health and Wellness Faire with information and the opportunity for community members to fill their "Wellness Passport" for a chance at one of three prizes. Congratulations to the winners: 1st Place - Devon Mattocks, 2nd Place - Adam Irey, 3rd Place - Caleb Rickards.

The HBCP wishes to thank its sponsors of Honey Brook Community Harmony Day 2017:

Country Fair Sponsors (\$1,000):

Brandywine Hospital
Chester County Hospital
Hickory House Nursing Home

Harvest the Fun Sponsors (\$500):

A.J. Blosenski, Inc. Trash & Recycling Service
BB&T Bank
BenCo Technology, LLC
Charles Blosenski
Chester County Solid Waste Authority
Heatherwood Retirement Community
Honeybrook Golf Course
Knies Insurance Group
M&T Bank
NovaCare Rehabilitation
Tel Hai Retirement Community

Fun for the Whole Herd Sponsors (\$100):

Baldwin Electrical
Bath Fitter
Dr. Nicholas Wengrin, DMD
Honey Brook Outdoor Power
John's Supply & Rental
Living God Lutheran Church
R-V Industries, Inc.
Ryan Tyler - State Farm Agency
Sanders Saws & Blades
The Board Used Furniture Shoppe



Chester County Dairy Princess



Bingo to benefit the Honey Brook Fire Company



Ringing Hill Chorus



Rock Climbing wall

Other Honey Brook Community Partnership Events

"Make a Difference Day" is one of the largest annual single days of service projects nationwide, held on the fourth Saturday in October each year. The goal is to improve the lives of others through a wide range of community driven service projects. This year, the Partnership encouraged a community-wide collection of toiletries and diapers for the Honey Brook Food Pantry. These items are not typically donated and are not available for purchase using food stamps.

The "Deck the Brook" decorating contest is held in early December each year. Honey Brook residents and businesses are invited to decorate their front doors and yards for the holidays and enter a competition to win prizes. Information is posted both on the Township website and at www.hbpartnership.org.

Honey Brook Community Partnership meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 AM at Heatherwood Retirement Community. For more information about the Partnership and the events and projects they organize please contact Donna Horvath at donna@honeybrookgolf.com.

Township Police Coverage

Honey Brook Township is covered by the Pennsylvania State Police.
Residents should call 9-1-1 for emergencies or the Embreeville Barracks at 610-486-6280 for non-emergencies.





General Information (cont.)

MS4 and You

What is MS4? It stands for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System. Applying for an MS4 permit has been an unfunded state mandate since 2003 which requires municipalities to identify all stormwater components within its defined "urbanized areas" (according to Census data) and address six minimum control measures related to stormwater. These measures are: 1) public education, 2) public participation, 3) illicit discharge detection/elimination, 4) construction site runoff, 5) post construction stormwater management, and 6) pollution prevention/good housekeeping.

Honey Brook Township submitted its MS4 5-year permit renewal application for the period ending in March of 2023 this past September. Part of that permit renewal application was including a Total Maximum Daily Load [of pollutants] (TMDL) Plan and a Pollutant Reduction Plan (PRP) which must be achieved over the course of the 5-year permit cycle.

Honey Brook Township has three defined "urbanized areas"—a western area in the southwest corner of the Township; a central area, shared with Honey Brook Borough; and an eastern area south of Route 322 and east of Park Road. The Township is subject to the requirements for a Pollutant Reduction Plan for areas draining to waters that are impaired by sediment and/or nutrients within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed and the Christina River Basin. We'll explore each of the three urbanized areas in detail.

Western area: The southwestern corner of the Township drains to the Chesapeake. The Plan must enumerate pollutant loads that are currently generated by the Township and specify the best management practices (BMPs) for stormwater controls that will be implemented to reduce the pollutant loads by 10% for sediment, 5% for phosphorus, and 3% for nitrogen. The Township's proposed BMP is to convert an existing grass drainage swale in Evergreen Ridge to a bioswale with specialized soils and plantings to promote water quality.

Eastern area: The Township's eastern area does not drain to impaired stream segments and therefore was not required to be counted in the TMDL calculations.

Central area: the area including and surrounding Honey Brook Borough is part of the Christina River Basin. Because the Borough drains to the Township, this area's Plan is a joint plan with the Borough. The BMPs for this area will include installing a forested buffer along a stream on an agricultural property, tree planting in Umble Park (which took place on October 14), and installing a rain garden in Umble Park.

For more information on the MS4 permit and other stormwater information, visit the Township's Stormwater page on the website: <http://honeybrooktp.com/helpful-links/stormwater/ms4-municipal-separate-storm-sewer/>.

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FIRM PROFILE: The Law Firm of Werner & Wood was established in April 1984 at West Chester, Pennsylvania, by Kenneth R. Werner and David W. Wood, Jr. The firm established county satellite offices in Honey Brook and Phoenixville that same year. Mr. Wood retired from the practice in 2012. The main office in the county seat of West Chester and two convenient locations in the surrounding area allow the firm to serve conveniently every resident of Chester County.

Main Office:
203 West Miner Street
West Chester, PA 19382
610-692-2900

Kenneth R. Werner, Esquire
Rt. 10 and Rt. 322
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-3412
kwerner@wernerwood.com

LL.M., Taxation
Village at Eland
Rt. 113 (Building #204)
Phoenixville, PA 19460
610-692-2900

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Deb Ink / Dan Myers
Myerstransport29@gmail.com

142 Reservoir Road
Honey Brook PA 19344
610-273-9338 F-610-273-7479



YOU CALL WE HAUL



Trash and Recycling

Trash Collection

Residents are required to contract with their own trash hauler who will also provide recycling services. Residential developments managed by a Home Owners' Associations (HOA) may contract with a hauler for the entire HOA so please check with your HOA manager for this information. **Burning of household trash, recyclables, and toxic materials of any kind is prohibited.**

Yard Waste Recycling

All haulers collecting trash in Honey Brook Township must offer yard waste collection at least Three times per year; once in the spring and twice in the fall. Please check with your hauler for their scheduled pickup date(s).



For more information, visit the Chester County Solid Waste Authority (CCSWA) website at www.chestercountyswa.org.

Recycling is Mandatory

Pennsylvania and Honey Brook Township regulations require all residential, commercial, institutional, and municipal properties to separate recyclable materials from their waste and have it properly collected and processed.

Residential collection of recyclable materials shall be provided at least once each week by your contracted trash collector. Items to be recycled by all residential units including mobile home parks and apartments include Glass containers, Cans, Plastics No. 1 to No. 5 and No. 7, Paper (newspaper, books, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, paper, and envelopes), and Cardboard boxes and containers. Check with your collector to learn whether additional items may be recycled.

Residents shall also separate leaf waste from other recyclable materials and trash. Your trash collector is required to collect leaf waste at least once in the Spring and twice



during the months of September through December. Check with your hauler for their schedule. You also have the option of disposing leaf waste by taking it to the Chester County Lanchester Landfill Composting Site. Fees may apply; check with the CCSWA.

Commercial, industrial, institutional, and municipal property owners / operators plus the sponsor of any community special event or other activity shall at a minimum separate all of the items required of residents listed above *plus* High-grade office paper and Corrugated cardboard.

These materials may be stored until collected. The property owner / operator shall annually provide written documentation to the Township of the types of materials and the total tons of materials that were recycled. This documentation is due no later than the end of January for the prior calendar year.

Paper or Plastic, Those Pesky Plastic Bags

What is the better choice – a paper or plastic bag? A reusable bag of course is the best choice. However, other bags also have their place.

A few years ago, a couple of communities in California banned plastic shopping bags only to find out that the sale of plastic garbage bags and wastebaskets liners went up. They discovered that many people use the free plastic bags they get at the store for kitchen and bathroom trash collection as well as diaper and pet waste cleanup. The free bags were replaced with bought bags. Those bans were lifted at the time.

Chester County grocery stores have collection containers at their entrances to collect and recycle plastic bags. Some bags might rip or have a hole in the bottom, making them unusable for home trash collection. Back to the grocery store entrance container is the place for them. But there are many other items to recycle in those containers you might

not be aware of. You can also put in plastic newspaper sleeves, dry cleaning bags, bread bags, product wrap (used on paper towels, diapers, bathroom tissue, water bottles), food storage bags, produce bags, bubble wrap, LDPE/HDPE films and any film packaging or bag that has the How2Recycle Label shown.

Please recycle only **CLEAN and DRY** bags and film and remove receipts or any other items. ***Never put plastic bags in your curbside recycling bin.*** A plastic bag at a recycling facility can jam expensive sorting equipment.

Clean plastic bags mixed with sawdust will become plastic lumber - a deck, a dock, a fence, bench or even an attractive outdoor recycling container.



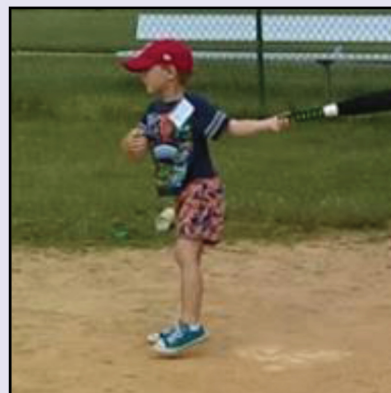
Parks & Recreation Information

Summer 2017 Youth Programs Recap



Fifteen children participated in the five weeks of Tuesday-morning tennis lessons with Lee Heller and Leslie Siebert. 2017 marked the 6th year this program has been offered to youth in grades 1-8.

The half-day summer camp, in its third year, was run by Michelle Zeitz, Theresa Androwick, and Lauren Swan at the Honey Brook Elementary Center three mornings a week for five weeks. Attendance averaged 31 per week with more than 53 different children in grades K-6; our most successful summer camp to date! Each week had a different theme with games to coincide with the theme, plus weekly visits to the Honey Brook Community Library and a water games day (most welcome on the hot summer days!).



2018 Youth Activities

Look for registration forms and details about the activities for Summer 2018 activities in the Spring/Summer 2018 edition of the Township Newsletter or watch the Township website at www.honeybrook-twp.com for announcements.

Community Garden Harvest 2017

The following are the totals harvested from the Raised Bed Garden behind the Township Administration Building:

Green Beans	11 lbs 13 oz	Radishes	fall harvest TBD
Red onions	3 lbs	Lettuce	3 lbs, plus fall harvest TBD
Peas	3 lbs	Spinach	6 lbs, plus fall harvest TBD

Produce was taken to the Salvation Army, Shepherd's Kitchen, Steeple to People, and the Honey Brook Food Pantry. Special thanks to this year's gardeners, Therese Mauchline, Chris Mauchline, Lee Heller, Sandy Back, and Karen Gorgonzola!

Basic Life Support CPR training course

Saturday, December 2, 2017, 8:30 am-12:30 pm

Honey Brook Township Administration Building, 500 Suplee Road

\$65 per person

Please Call Jessica Green at 484-364-1234 before November 18th to reserve your spot.

James A. Umble Memorial Park

Located at 173 Suplee Road, the park is open from dawn to dusk each day. A walking trail encircles the park and features a Born Learning Trail. Park amenities include three ballfields, two tot lots, picnic pavilion, tennis courts, and a sand volleyball court. A list of the park rules is posted near the entrance to the park.

Picnic Pavilion Reservations – Residents can reserve the pavilion for group outings free of charge on a first-come, first-served basis. The pavilion includes outdoor grills and picnic table seating as well as a hitching post and handicapped parking. Reserve the pavilion by submitting a Facilities Use Application together with a \$100.00 security deposit to the Township Administration Office. The security deposit will be returned provided that no damage occurs or clean-up is needed because of the group's use.



Park Equipment Available - Residents are allowed to borrow baseball/softball bases and pickleball equipment for use at the park. The equipment, which is located in the box located next to the front door of the Township Administration Building, is available on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please return the equipment promptly after your use.



Township Regulations

Permits Required

The Township requires that property owners obtain permits before starting most construction projects, opening a business, demolishing a structure or removing a trailer just to name a few. Listed below are common permits that are required:

- Building permits are required to erect, construct, reconstruct, enlarge, alter, move, change the use of, or demolish any structure which involves adding or removing structural square footage on the property. Permits are also required for sheds; decks, patios, and porches; signs; swimming pools and hot tubs; electrical/mechanical/plumbing; retaining walls; and new driveways and expansions.

Please note: Permits are not required for re-shingling of roofs; painting, flooring, or siding; exact replacement of windows or doors; sealcoating a driveway; or other cosmetic repairs, unless any structural changes or changes in footprint occur.

- Zoning permits are generally reserved for smaller projects that are not subject to the Uniform Construction Code; projects that are subject to the UCC require building permits.
- Other permits are also required, including: any new business including home occupations and businesses; change in use of any building; timber harvesting; trailer removal; and yard sales, to name a few.

Permit applications can be found on the Township website under the Documents/Forms tab, they can be picked up from the Township Office or the staff will be glad to mail them upon request. When in doubt, contact the Township staff with any questions at 610-273-3970.

Kennel Operations

The Township defines a kennel as the use of any property or structure for the purpose of breeding household pets for compensation, or the maintenance of more than five dogs that are more than six months old. The definition of kennel includes non-profit animal shelters and boarding kennels.

Kennels are permitted in the Agricultural, Resource Conservation and Industrial zoning districts ONLY after receiving approval from the Board of Supervisors after the conclusion of a Conditional Use Hearing. Applications for a hearing are available at the Township Administration Office.

Refer to the Township Zoning Ordinance Chapter 27-1604.M for the minimum requirements that must be met to comply with the Township's regulations. The Zoning Ordinance is available on the Township's website or it can be reviewed in the Office during normal business hours. In addition to the Township's regulations kennel operations must be in compliance with all PA dog laws.

Dog Laws

Pennsylvania's Dog Laws:

- If your dog (3 months of age or older) is not licensed, you may be fined up to \$300 per dog. Get a license at the Chester County treasurer's office or at Dawg Day Afternoon, 1571 Horseshoe Pike, Glenmoore PA, 19343. An annual license is \$8.50 and a life time license is \$51.50. If your dog 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.
- Dogs and cats three months or older must have a current rabies vaccination. Owners of non-vaccinated pets may be fined up to \$300, plus court costs. Have your dog or cat vaccinated by a licensed veterinarian, who can provide a vaccination certificate.
- Your dog must be under control and supervised at all times. You are responsible for any damages caused by your dog on someone else's property.
- It is illegal to mistreat or abuse animals. Report suspected abuse to the Brandywine SPCA at 610-692-6113, to police at 610-486-6280, or the PA Animal Cruelty Hotline, 866-601-7722.
- Purposely poisoning a dog, whether it is yours or someone else's, is illegal.
- You may not abandon or attempt to abandon any dog. You could be fined \$1,000, plus court costs.
- Puppies under eight weeks old cannot be bartered, traded, sold or transferred.
- You must have a state kennel license if you keep, sell, transfer, adopt or foster 26 or more dogs in a calendar year.
- If your dog attacks or kills a human or domestic animal without provocation, it may be considered dangerous. You may face extensive fines and restrictions.

Remember, if your dog gets lost, a current license is the fastest way to get your dog back home. Licensing fees help protect the millions of dogs in Pennsylvania by funding the Bureau of Dog Law Enforcement.

See the article on page 12 for information about the Dog Kennel Task Force.



Great American Cleanup Success!

As part of a statewide effort to Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful, the Park & Recreation Committee organized a "Keep Honey Brook Beautiful" cleanup day on April 29, 2017. A total of 12 people picked up 41 bags of trash and 18 tires from Struble Lake, Fieldstone Road, Welsh Road, Route 322 (from Heatherwood east to Turkey Hill), Grieson Road, and Forest Road.

Another group of 13 citizens organized a Keep Honey Brook Beautiful Cleanup Day on Saturday, May 27 on Cambridge Road between Park and Compass Roads, picking up 16 bags of trash in 2 hours' time. Supplies (trash bags, work gloves, safety vests) were provided courtesy of PennDOT.

For more information about the Great American Cleanup, visit <http://www.gacofpa.org/>.





Public Works

Park Road Improvement Update

The Public Works staff began its work on Park Road, located between Cambridge and Beaver Dam Roads, in late September. The improvements include road widening of about two (2) feet on one side of the road, installation of stormwater catch basins and pipe, resurfacing the entire roadway, and line painting. Work will continue until the weather hinders work, then it will pick up again in spring 2018. Check the Announcements and Roads pages on the website, www.honeybrooktwp.com, for updates.

The entire expense for these improvements will be paid with monies in our Liquid Fuels fund that are received each year from the Commonwealth. These monies are raised from the taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel and are distributed to municipalities according to the mileage of roads each one maintains. Liquid Fuels monies may only be used for maintenance and improvement of our local roads, bridges, and storm sewers.



From the Public Works Director

Fall is here and winter is rapidly approaching. Here are some tips to keep you and your neighbors safe:

Fall Weather Responsibilities

- 1. Mailboxes:** Please check the position of your mailbox to insure that it doesn't extend over the edge of the street making it susceptible to plow damage. The Road Crew makes every effort to avoid causing damage to mailboxes; however, plowed snow may be pushed against mailbox posts, especially during large storms.
- 2. Remove all items from the Township's right-of-way before winter arrives.** Items like decorations, basketball hoops, or other portable objects are not permitted in the right-of-way at any time. A good rule of thumb is to keep such items at least 10 feet back from the roadway to reduce the chance of plow damage.
- 3. Trim trees and shrubs** so that branches do not extend within three feet of the roadway edge.
- 4. Grass clippings and leaves** must never be blown into the street or storm drains.

Winter Weather Responsibilities

- 1. Vehicle Parking:** Whenever there is a winter weather event, all vehicles must be removed from the streets including cul-de-sacs in the Township until the storm has ended and the Public Works staff has completed the final storm clean-up. **The Township is not required to declare a weather emergency for this requirement.** If vehicles are parked on streets and cul-de-sacs during a winter weather event, they are subject to towing at the owner's expense.
- 2. Sidewalks:** Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after the storm ends. If you can't completely clear your sidewalk because of ice conditions, treat it with sand or other abrasive material.
- 3. DO NOT throw or blow snow into the streets.** Pile the snow behind the curb line or street edge where it won't obstruct traffic movement or the Township's plowing operations.
- 4. Fire Hydrants and Storm Drains:** You are required to clear snow around fire hydrants on your property. You can also help minimize flooding by clearing snow from storm sewer catch basins located along your property.
- 5. Tips about clearing your driveway:** The Township receives complaints every year about the staff plowing driveways closed or covering sidewalks after a resident has spent hours shoveling them open. Unfortunately, during plowing operations, snow is pushed to the right side of the road, regularly blocking driveways and occasionally covering sidewalks.

The best way to avoid having to clear snow from your driveway multiple times is to wait until plowing operations are completed before you clean up. If you'd like to get a head start but don't need to get out of your driveway, consider not shoveling the last six feet toward the street until the plowing operation is complete. If you need to clear your driveway before plowing is complete, you can minimize the amount of snow plowed into the driveway in the following manner: clear not only your driveway out into the street, but also all of the snow at least 10 feet along the street. This will allow plows to unload most of the snow before crossing in front of your driveway.

Bear in mind that any damage caused from the Public Works staff's plowing operations or moving items out of the right-of-way prior to such operations is the property owner's responsibility.

Planning Ahead for Spring

If you are planning on installing a driveway or changing a current one this spring, remember that you will need a Road or Highway Occupancy Permit by either the Township (if it connects to a Township road) or the State (if it connects to a state road). Even if your driveway connects to a private road in the Township, you will need a permit for any impervious coverage you install on your property.

OTHER ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITIES!



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FOR MORE INFORMATION GO TO:

townshipnewsletters.com/newsletters

OR CALL 215-538-0350

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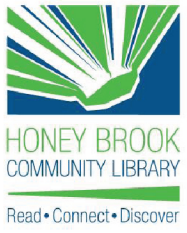
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Around the Community

Honey Brook Community Library Programs:



Mystery Book Club

Join us at the Honey Brook Library on the third Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm for our Mystery Book Club. Stop in at the library to pick up a reading list.

Knitting & Crocheting Club

Every Thursday from 7 – 9 pm, join in the fun for this knitting, crocheting, and needlework group for young adults and adults. Bring your own supplies.

Building Club for Little Ones

Bring your preschooler to play with LEGOs, wooden blocks, Lincoln logs, & magnatiles on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am. Upcoming dates are November 21 & December 19 (confirm dates with library). Registration required.

Building Club for grades K-5th

Held on Tuesdays at 6:00 pm. Registration required.

Raise-A-Reader

This program for children age 0-36 months includes rhymes, finger plays, music, and lots of books with Miss Melissa. Limited to 15 children and their caregiver on Fridays. Registration required; three sessions per year (spring dates/times TBA).

Sewing with Ms. Nancy

Wednesdays 6:30-8 pm at the Honey Brook Library for all ages 12 and older. Ms. Nancy will help you with basic sewing skills or chose a pattern or project from the Library's many sewing books. We have five sewing machines at the library or bring your own.

Story Time with Miss Jennifer

Enjoy songs, stories, and crafts at the Honey Brook Library on Wednesdays and Thursdays, from 10:00-11:00 am through December 6. Best suited for preschool ages 2 -5, but all ages are welcome.

Stop in for a flyer, find us on Facebook, call 610-273-3303, or e-mail jspade@ccls.org for more information on any of the above programs or to register.

Internet Hotspots Available!

Take the Internet with you. Hotspots from T-Mobile are available to rent from the Library. Going on a trip? Need Internet at home? Just always on the go? Rent one of our Hotspots. They will be \$6 for a 3-day rental and \$14 for a 7-day rental. They are 4 G and up to 10 devices can connect to them at the same time. Your library card must be free of fines and you will be required to show ID when checking them out.

Fundraising Opportunity

Amazon -- If you are using Amazon, sign in first through Amazon Smile. Go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and select "Honey Brook Community Library Chester County Library" using the link. It's that easy! 5% of your purchases will be donated to the HBCL from Amazon. Please tell your friends and family and remember to sign in through Amazon Smile each time you use Amazon.

Honey Brook Community Library
687 Compass Road
Honey Brook, PA 19344
610-273-3303

Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays: 11 am - 6 pm
Tuesdays & Thursdays: 11 am - 8 pm
Fridays: 11 am - 5 pm
Saturdays: 10 am - 5 pm
Sundays: closed

Register for programs to jspade@ccls.org

What is being heard in Honey Brook Township?

by John McHugh

Off in the distance the sound of barking dogs can be heard and residents are asking if the noise coming from a homeowner's pet or from a dog kennel? That is the question that has been raised at a Honey Brook Township Board of Supervisors meeting recently. We have been conducting conditional use hearings for the dog kennels and some residents took this as a sign the Township is encouraging the proliferation of dog kennels. As Chairman of the Board, I wanted definitive answers. My reaction is to turn to the residents to get answers.

I advertised the request to form a Dog Kennel Task Force and the response has been tremendous. My purpose is to go directly to the residents in the community and get their input. We need to sort through the assumptions people are making and determine the facts from fiction.

If the noise is coming from a dog kennel, what can be done about it? If residents are not caring for their pets, what can be done about it? Does the Township have the authority to regulate and control these problems and do we have ordinances in place the meet the problem? These are some of the questions that are under consideration by the Task Force.

Honey Brook Township has thirteen dog kennels that are registered with the State of Pennsylvania and must meet zoning regulations set by the Township. The dog kennel owners must follow strict regulations and are subject to regular inspections by the State Department of Agriculture. A dog kennel is a properly run facility that provides good care for the dogs that are being raised. On the other hand, a puppy mill is a disgrace to anyone who treats dogs negligently and with the number of dog kennels that have been shut down demonstrates the commitment from local and State government to ensure the health and safety of the dogs.

The State of Pennsylvania has made great strides to rid itself of the stigma of having puppy mills but many residents are concerned that the dog kennels are not what they claim to be and insist that the Township is allowing and encouraging the existence of puppy mills. In Honey Brook Township we do not want any poorly run facilities that can be considered a puppy mill in our community or elsewhere.

The Task Force has been asked to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at our December 13 meeting. All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Honey Brook Administrative Building at 500 Suplee Road. You can contact Honey Brook Township Administration from 9 am to 3 pm by calling (610) 273-3970 or visit the Township website, www.honeybrooktwp.com, for more information.

So, what is being heard in Honey Brook Township? The residents are being heard at the task force meetings, as it should be.

HBR Radio 1610 khz

Announcing a AM broadcasting station: HBR Radio 1610 khz

A new broadcast system is available on your AM radio dial, HBR Radio 1610. For now, the station is still under development and can be heard most clearly on the 300 & 400 blocks of Icedale Road. The range hopes to expand once new equipment is installed later this Spring. Internet streaming will follow shortly thereafter.

The same announcements that are posted on the Honey Brook Township website and Facebook page will now also be announced on HBR Radio.

Reception reports, questions, and comments may be sent to HBR@airpower.com





Honey Brook Food Pantry

HBFP is expanding operations and now completing its fourth year in the local community, serving nearly 800 people per month. The current pace will add nearly 200 NEW families seeking help this year alone, which, in an area of this size, is quite surprising and does continue to demonstrate the need that exists.

Many of the clients have serious disabilities and many are elderly, driving a dramatic increase in the need for home deliveries. It is also important to note that 48% of the households served by the pantry are families with children.

The first three quarters of 2017 recorded a 20% increase of individuals seeking help. This is particularly noteworthy since the number of families increased by 12% confirming the trend that more and more large families are in need of assistance.

The Honey Brook Food Pantry is located at Door #8 of the Good Food Distribution Center, 5064 Horseshoe Pike (across from Wimpy & Dee’s Diner). Distributions are the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month except where noted due to holidays. One visit per month per household, please.

December	January	February	March	April	May
December 13 10:00 am-1:30 pm December 27 4:00-6:30 pm Holiday Pickup Only: December 9, 10 am - 1:00 pm	January 10 10:00 am-1:30 pm January 24 4:00-6:30 pm	February 14 10:00 am-1:30 pm February 28 4:00-6:30 pm	March 14 10:00 am-1:30 pm March 28 4:00-6:30 pm	April 11 10:00 am-1:30 pm April 25 4:00-6:30 pm	May 9 10:00 am-1:30 pm May 23 4:00-6:30 pm

In addition to the regular food provided monthly, supplemental food boxes have again been distributed to over 350 children in need during the summer months. The Children’s Back Pack Program will begin again this month with over 80 kids regularly receiving weekend food assistance

We have expanded the “Garden for Life” growing program involving 16 families in 3 of the local housing communities. The harvests have been truly overwhelming with much to share among neighbors. Cooking demonstrations for healthy meals are now conducted during each distribution and our initial Money Management Workshop, presented by the Housing Partnership of Chester County, will be held this month. We will then turn our focus to employment information and support.

87% of the 140 families recently surveyed expressed satisfaction with the quantity and quality of food received. With the recent reductions in retail support, we encourage donations that will assist with the purchase of larger quantities of more nutritious food (meat, produce, milk), since there are more people to feed than ever before.

Please contact me with any questions or further needs and many thanks for your support!!

Kenneth R. Ross
Board Chairman, Honey Brook Food Pantry
610-291-0067
www.honeybrookfoodpantry.org
visit us on Facebook @ Honey Brook Food Pantry

Alternate Honey Brook Food Pantry Donation Drop-off Point

The Honey Brook Township Administration Office at 500 Suplee Road is a drop-off point for non-perishable donations to the Honey Brook Food Pantry during the Township’s normal business hours of Monday through Friday, 9:00 am- 3:00 pm. Consult the Pantry’s website for the most up-to-date list of accepted (and needed) donation items. Look for the bin in the lobby of the Administration Building at 500 Suplee Rd.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE POLICE COMMUNITY AWARENESS BULLETIN

CAB 005-17

TRANSIENT CRIMINAL SCAM – DIVERSION THEFTS/IMPOSTER FRAUDS

Throughout the year, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania plays host to transient criminals who travel great distances in search of victims for their various money-making scams. In many cases, their targets are the elderly. The greatest defense against these “scam” artists is to share some basic crime prevention tips.

One of the more recent prevalent scams being perpetrated by transient criminals in Pennsylvania is Diversion Thefts/Imposter Frauds. In this scam, criminals approach and distract a homeowner, luring them toward a particular room of the house with ploys such as feigning illness, asking for a drink of water, saying that they are looking for a lost pet, etc. They may also pose as a repairman from the local power company or water department in an effort to gain access to the victim’s house or lure the victim out of the house. They present an identification badge, or may be wearing what appears to be a work uniform, and convince the victim that they need to test the water pressure, electricity, or determine where the property line is. The scammers then advise the victim that company regulations do not allow them to be on the property or in the house unaccompanied. Their purpose is to distract the victim while unseen accomplices enter the residence and steal valuables, such as jewelry and cash. In some instances, the suspects communicate with hand-held radios or cellular telephones while committing these offenses. Some other frequently used ploys include claims that the perpetrator works for a tree pruning service, driveway paving service, or fence installation company.

Prevention Tips:

- Always lock your doors when doing yard work, getting mail, or anytime you go outside - both front and back doors.
- Be careful with whom you let in your home. Never allow strangers inside your home, even if they appear to be in distress or with a young child.
- Check with your utility company by telephone if an employee wants to enter your home, or wants you to come outside with them. If you do not see any identification or company credentials, ask for it; however, keep in mind some of these criminals have become skillful at making their own identification cards. Do not hesitate to check each individual’s identification and verify information with their respective company.
- Write down the license plate number of any vehicles that suspicious individuals may be operating. Try to obtain a good physical description of anyone who comes to your door.
- **CALL THE POLICE TO REPORT THE INCIDENT IMMEDIATELY!** Never be too embarrassed to report that you may have been victimized or swindled.

Honey Brook Borough Events

HONEY BROOK BOROUGH TREE LIGHTING

Sunday, December 3: Christmas Tree Lighting, 7:00 pm. Caroling, refreshments, and a visit from Santa, arriving via fire truck! For information, call 610-273-2020

For information, call 610-273-2020

Ready Chesco



ReadyChesCo is used to notify you during a major crisis or emergency, and delivers important emergency alerts; such as weather, road closures, health, or community alerts. You can choose to sign up by county, municipality, or by topic.

You may receive notifications and updates on all your devices:

- email account
- cell phone (via SMS)
- pager

Registration takes only a few minutes! You can register by visiting www.readychesco.org

It is free to sign up for ReadyChesCo, and you can choose the type of alerts that you get. Your wireless carrier may charge you to get messages on your device, so check your plan to see what is covered. You can choose to stop getting these messages at any time.

Shepherd’s Kitchen

Shepherd’s Kitchen Offers Monthly Free Meal to the Community

The Honey Brook Presbyterian Church, 4331 Horseshoe Pike, has been serving meals and sharing companionship with the community since 2012. The free meals are usually served on the first Thursday of the month from 4:30 to 6:30, and they are nutritiously and lovingly prepared. All are welcome to come and break bread! Upcoming dates are:

• Dec. 7 • Jan. 11*

*(note date change due to New Year’s Holiday)

• Feb. 1 • Mar. 1 • Apr. 5

Visit the Shepherd’s Kitchen on Facebook (the menu or cancellation notice can be found there):
<https://www.facebook.com/Honey-Brook-Presbyterian-Church-331648382176/>
or call 610-273-2848 with questions.



Senior News



SENIOR FOOD BOX PROGRAM: In partnership with the Chester County Food Bank, qualifying seniors age 60 and older may register to receive a Senior Food Box at Honey Brook Community Library.

To qualify, you must:

- Be a Chester County resident age 60 or older
- Have total household income at or less than the following:

Family Size	INCOME LEVEL		
	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1	\$17,800	\$1,485	\$343
2	\$24,030	\$2,003	\$462

Fresh Produce Available

On (most) Thursdays, the Chester County Food Bank delivers fresh produce to the Center. Produce is FREE and available for the public (but we encourage you to call to be sure a delivery was made)!

MEDICARE ANNUAL ELECTION PERIOD OR MEDICARE ANNUAL OPEN ENROLLMENT PERIOD October 15, 2017 - December 7, 2017

Help with Medicare is here! The annual election period is October 15 through December 7, 2017. Are you unhappy with your current Medicare coverage? Have you reviewed your Medicare coverage every year? Medicare drug and health plans change annually. Premiums change, fees, co-pays, coinsurance and deductibles change, drug formularies change. You should review your coverage every year to determine if there is better coverage and cost savings! Any changes you make to your coverage will become effective January 1, 2018.

The Medicare Annual Election Period is the time each year where you can do the following:

- Switch or join Medicare Part D prescription drug plan
- Switch to another Medicare Advantage HMO or PPO
- Switch from a Medicare Advantage plan back to Original Medicare with or without a Medicare Supplemental/Medigap plan and prescription drug plan
- Review and compare your current coverage

Call and make an appointment with an APPRISE Medicare Counselor who can assist you in making changes and guide you in evaluating your options. These counselors are trained and certified by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to provide FREE assistance, with confidential and independent assessments of healthcare options under Medicare.

Counselors will be available at Coatesville Area Center, by appointment only on Mon., Nov. 13 from 9AM to 2PM and Wed., Nov. 29th from 9AM to 2PM.

Just what is a Township anyway?

The township is the oldest form of organized government in the United States. Townships in Pennsylvania were the first form of land grants established by William Penn, with 10 or so family tracts of land in each. They have existed in one form or another since the Province of Pennsylvania was established in 1681. Sometimes, the original grantee inspired the name of the Township. For instance, the Pikeland was named for Joseph Pike, who obtained a 10,000-acre land grant from William Penn.

The Township is one of six types of local governments listed in the Pennsylvania Constitution and can range in size from rural communities of 200 to suburban communities of more than 60,000. Honey Brook Township is one of 1,456 townships in Pennsylvania. The other five types of local Pennsylvania governments are the county (67), borough (1,048), town (1), city (56), and school district (500). All told, there are 2,561 municipalities (townships, boroughs, or cities) in Pennsylvania. Chester County has 58 Townships, 14 Boroughs and one City, Coatesville.

Townships are given either Class I (with population densities of 300 or more persons per square mile and agreed upon by referendum) or Class II powers, attributes, and responsibilities. Some second-class townships that qualify for first-class status prefer to continue as a second class Township. Second-class townships, which Honey Brook Township counts itself among, cover 95% of Pennsylvania's land area and include 44% of the state's population.

Representation in a second-class township is by a Board of Supervisors of three persons elected at-large for 6 year terms. A referendum may allow a second-class township's board of supervisors to expand to five members. Some townships have home-rule charters, which allow for a mayor/council form of government.

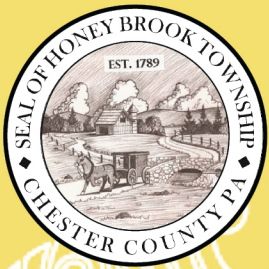
Representation in a first-class township is by a board of commissioners that can consist of anywhere from five commissioners elected at large to boards with 7-15 members elected by wards to four-year terms. Through via home rule petitions, some townships have also maintained at-large representation, or mixed geographical wards and an at-large election organization. By law there are always an odd number of 'township commissioners'.

Due to historic legalisms, Bloomsburg is the only officially designated & incorporated 'town' in Pennsylvania starting from its incorporation on March 4, 1870, but is administered by the borough code and is classified (for legal purposes) as a borough by the state. The town of Bloomsburg is administered by a town council of six members and the mayor. As an incorporated town, the mayor can vote along with the council on every motion. This is different than most borough councils, where there are seven council members and the mayor can only vote to break ties.

More densely populated municipal entities, usually ones with a well-defined business district and recognizable as having the traditional attributes of a 'town' is the borough. The next step up is the city. Both counties and school districts generally span across several communities, including municipalities that sometimes cross county lines (as with our own Twin Valley School District). The other five local governments are subordinate to county governmental functions, which include administration of courts, jails, code enforcement, and land registration. Counties, in turn, are subordinate to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania just as the Commonwealth is to the federal government.

Intergovernmental cooperation exists in over 80% of townships, according to a 2009 survey by the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS). These efforts save time and money, which are both scarce commodities in townships. Township officials and staff are creative when it comes to delivering the services their residents want and need on increasingly tight budgets. According to the survey, townships are working together on everything from providing ambulance services to zoning, including equipment sharing, joint purchasing, road maintenance, and fire protection.

A perfect example of this type of coordination is the 2015 Multi-Municipal Comprehensive Plan for both the Borough and the Township of Honey Brook. An update to the Zoning maps is currently under consideration for each municipality. A Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) permit renewal was submitted in September with cooperation between the Borough and Township on one of the urbanized area's Best Management Practices (see article on page 7, "MS4 and You" for more information).



Honey Brook Township

CHESTER COUNTY, PA

Fall/Winter 2017

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