

East Rockhill Township

1622 North Ridge Road
Perkasie, PA 18944



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARRISBURG, PA
PERMIT NO. 609

EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP

Report

SPRING/SUMMER 2014

SUPERVISOR HONORED FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

Thank You To The Businesses

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.

hometownpress

THIS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED FOR THE
EAST ROCKHILL TOWNSHIP BY **Hometown Press**
215.257.1500 • ALL RIGHTS RESERVED®

To Place An Ad Call Denise At Hometown Press • 510-526-1473 • DeniseOfHTP@yahoo.com

CONTENT PROVIDED BY CHROMA CREATIVE GROUP • 267-772-0740

CONTEMPORARY GARDEN SUPPLY

Full Installation of Landscaping, Hardscaping & Ponds

Complete Garden Supply Store

Bulk & Bagged Mulch • Trees & Shrubs
Annuals & Perennials • Tools
Lawn Care • and much more...

FREE
DESIGN



401 EAST CALLOWHILL STREET • PERKASIE • 215-453-0900
www.contemporarygardenspa.com PA#033372



Your close-to-home resource



Bucks
County Community College

- your college degree
- courses & certifications for personal and professional development
- arts & cultural activities

Visit your exciting campus at Hillendale Road or bucks.edu



In 1983, Gary Volovnik was elected as an East Rockhill Supervisor for the first time. Since then, he has played a vital role in the infrastructure process, taken the lead in preserving open space and was instrumental in expanding the township's trail and park system.

On March 18, the township recognized Volovnik for 30 years of dedicated service.

"I don't know of anyone in this township who is more respected than Gary Volovnik is," said fellow Supervisor Dave Nyman.

With a surprise visit from his family, Volovnik was presented with a plaque and special citations by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and the Pennsylvania Senate for his leadership.

Volovnik, 60, is the third generation of his family to live in East Rockhill. He resides on the farm his grandfather purchased.

"Whatever you can do to reach out and help someone that's what you do, and that's how we live. It's an honor and it's been a great journey," said Volovnik.

His term expires in 2019.

SPRING YARD WASTE COLLECTION: WEEK OF MAY 28

Now that the nice weather has arrived, residents will begin the ritual of trimming, pruning and planting. The question is always the same: what should I do with all this yard waste?

Since 2007, East Rockhill has provided curbside collection of yard waste and leaf recycling under requirements imposed by the Department of Environmental Protection under Act 101 of 1988 and Act 140 of 2006.

Spring yard waste collection is scheduled by district with no registration required. The 2014 Spring Program is as follows:

- District I: Collection south of and including Ridge Road during the week of May 27
- District II: Collection north of Ridge Road during the week of June 2

Here are a few important reminders about the program:

- Have your yard waste out by the curb by 7 a.m. of the first day of your collection.
- Leaves or grass clippings are NOT permitted; tree branches and brush only.
- Place tree limbs and branches in neat piles at the edge of the road or driveway.
- Branches are limited to six (6) feet long and no greater than five (5) inches in circumference.
- Piles for pick-up are limited to four (4) feet wide, four (4) feet high, and six (6) feet long.
- Please be patient - it may take several days to complete collections throughout the Township.
- If you miss the curbside collection or have additional yard waste, the East Rockhill Township Drop-off Center is open Monday through Saturday, from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. and on Sunday, from 6 p.m. to noon for township residents and residential personal recycling only; commercial landscapers are not permitted. The center is monitored electronically, and violators will be prosecuted.
- Please do not leave bags with the leaf and yard waste.

If you have any questions, check our website (eastrockhilltownship.org) or call 215-257-9156.

East Rockhill Township • 1622 North Ridge Road • Perkasie, PA 18944

This Edition of The East Rockhill Township Report is published by the Board of Supervisors to keep you informed on timely information about the township and your local government.

Visit us on the web at: www.EastRockhillTownship.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pennridge Regional Police Department	3
Old Medication Disposal	3
Support Perkasie Fire Company	4
Eagle Scout	4
Local District Court: Caseload Increases	5
From the Desk of Kathleen Percetti Tax Collector	5
Welcome to Senator McInhinney	6
Pennridge Regional Senior Center News	6
Veteran's Transportation Program	6
Household Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule	7
Around the Township	8-9
Your Next Gathering at Markey Park	9
Supervisors Notebook	10
Great American Cleanup	11
Why You Should Recycle	11
It's Easy Being Green	12
West Rockhill Historical Society News	12
What is Stormwater?	13
Community Calendar	14
Township Contact Information	14

Gas Savings.
Every purchase.* Every day.

Save 10¢ per gallon for every 100 Gas Extra Rewards points you earn.
Earn 1 point for every \$1 you spend with your BONUSCARD.

*Some restrictions apply. See store for details.



Sitting down?

Your lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer is about 1 in 20*

The Center for GI Health specializes in the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of colon cancer. We are committed to making your visit as safe, comfortable, and efficient as possible.

*Source: American Cancer Society, Cancer Statistics 2012



Colonoscopy can save your life. Call to schedule yours today: 215.257.5071

CGI The Center for GI Health | **The Endoscopy Center**

817 Lawn Avenue, Sellersville PA 18960
Office: (215) 257.5071 | Fax: (215) 257.1801
www.cgi-health.com



Care & Share Thrift Shoppes

"Where every purchase is a gift to the world."

www.careandshareshoppes.org

Clothing • Furniture • Variety • Books • Outlet

783 Route 113
Souderton Center
Souderton, PA
215-723-0315

Hours:
Mon-Wed 10-5
Thur-Fri 10-8 • Sat 10-5

FREE Furniture Donation Pickups!
Call about

Success Rehabilitation, Inc. at RockRidge

5666 CLYMER ROAD
QUAKERTOWN, PA 18951

AN INDIVIDUAL WITH A NEUROLOGIC IMPAIRMENT, ESPECIALLY A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY, IS THE FOCUS OF **Success Rehabilitation's** PROGRAMS.

OUR GOAL IS TO HELP CLIENTS OBTAIN A REALISTIC, MAXIMUM LEVEL OF INDEPENDENT FUNCTIONING IN THE LEAST RESTRICTIVE COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT ~ ONE THAT ADVANCES INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTIVITY AND WELL-BEING.

Success Rehabilitation's CARF-ACCREDITED, COST-EFFECTIVE BRAIN INJURY PROGRAMS INCLUDE:

- RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION
- LONG-TERM RESIDENTIAL REHABILITATION
- VOCATIONAL SERVICES

For the rehabilitation needs of your clients with a traumatic brain injury, call:
Phone 215.538.3488 • Fax 215.538.8692
email: success@successrehab.com
web: www.successrehab.com



STEPHEN REDDING
Arborist
www.happytreeltd.com

FULLY INSURED • REASONABLE RATES
215-257-7650

126 Reller Road • Green Lane, PA 18054

Tree Service, Landscaping, Plant Health Care

Quality work and integrity in our business dealings are the hallmarks of Happy Tree.

- Professional arborist services for all large trees including pruning, shaping, deadwood removal, cabling, bracing, cavity work, storm damage repair, hazard evaluation, and tree removal.
- Complete landscaping services from design through installation and maintenance. Design services from our own in-house Registered Landscape Architect. We grow our own trees and shrubs to ensure top quality, hardy installations.
- Cutting-edge plant health care treatments, including nutritional support, feeding, pest control, and treatment of disease.

"SATISFACTION THAT GROWS!"



BAIR'S TREE & LAWN SERVICE

Residential & Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates

224 Cathill Road • Sellersville, PA 18960 • 215 257 9425

Dunlap & Associates, P.C.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS & BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

SPECIALIZING IN PRIVATELY-HELD COMPANIES, FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESSES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS

Accounting • Tax • Audit • Business Consulting • Payroll Administration
Estate and Trust Services • QuickBooks® Support

1300 Horizon Drive, Suite 106 • Chalfont PA 18914
215.997.5600 • www.dunlap-associates.com



215-257-9313
Certified water treatment specialist
30 years experience
Three Generations serving you

- Water Softener
- Reverse Osmosis
- pH Correction
- Well Pumps and Tanks
- Bacterial Control
- Water Heaters
- Iron Reduction

\$5 off service call with this ad - with payment at time of service

McELHARES SERVICE CENTER

Since 1956 **215-257-2726** Auto Repair Service

93 S. Main St.
(Main & Park Ave.)
Sellersville, PA 18960

Hunter Four Wheel Alignment • Inspections
New Emissions • General Repairs
Brakes • Mastercraft Tires & Most Major Brands



GRIM BIEHN & THATCHER
Trusted Legal Counsel Since 1895

Perkasie
215-257-6811

Quakertown
215-536-1200

Doylestown
215-348-2199



www.grimlaw.com



A Member of the **GOLDEN RULE**
The Rule You Know
The People You Trust

Over 95 years of Service to the Pennridge Community

Bernard Suess Funeral Home, Inc.

606 Arch Street, Perkasie, PA
215-257-2144

Jeffrey F. Gahman, Supervisor
Bernard H. Suess, Funeral Director

Funeral Pre-Planning & Pre-Financing
Cremation Services & Casket Selection Room

Considerate, Respectful and Honest Service When You Need It The Most



REPUBLIC SERVICES

An Environmental Partner You Can Count On



Residential Collection and Recycling Services

NEW Online Payment Options!

Sign Up Today to pay your bill on line and receive ONE MONTH FREE! Paperless Billing saves you more of what matters. Call 215.723.0400 to learn how it works!
republicservices.com

BLUE FLAME GAS SERVICE

Residential and Commercial Propane Sales and Service

- Propane
- Heating & Air-Conditioning
- Furnaces & Baseboard Heat
- Attic Fans, Humidifiers, & Electronic Air Cleaners
- Installation & Service of All Propane Appliances
- Gasoline & Diesel Fuel Deliveries
- Motor Oils & Lubricants
- Budget Plans & Prompt Payment Discounts
- Senior Citizen Discounts

359 West Dublin Pike • Perkasie, PA 18944
Toll Free: 1-888-585-BLUE (2583)
Phone: 215-249-3575
www.blueflamegas.com
PA HIC #018917

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May

- 3** Pennridge Community Center - Spring Craft Fair, 9am - 2pm
- 3-4** Peddlers Village Strawberry Festival
- 10** Community Yard Sale @Lenape Park Hazardous Waste Collection @Lower Makefield Corporate Center
- 11** Mother's Day
- 17** Pennridge Community Center, Shredder Event 11am-1 pm
- 18** Perkasio & Sellersville FD Breakfast
- 20** Primary Election Day
- 23** Pennridge Community Center Old Fashioned Prom with The Good Times Band
- 24** "Saturdays in Perkasio" Farmers Market
Perkasio FD Appliance & Scrap Metal Drive
- 26** Memorial Day – Township Closed
- 27-30** ERT Spring Yard Waste Collection South of and including Ridge Road

June

- 2-6** ERT Spring Yard Waste Collection North of Ridge Road
- 7** Mood's Bridge 140th Anniversary Celebration
- 15** Father's Day
Perkasio FD Breakfast
- 21** Hazardous Waste Collection @UB County Vo-Tech
- 24-28** Perkasio FD Carnival
- 27** Pennridge Community Center Picnic Dinner Dance with Gary Dee
- 28** Perkasio FD Scrap Metal Drive
Electronic Collection @Palisades Middle School

July

- 4** Independence Day – Township Closed
- 19** Hazardous Waste Collection @Central Bucks South High School
- 25** Pennridge Community Center Beach Party Dinner Dance with The Kevin Kelton Orchestra
- 26** Electronics Only @Central Bucks South High School

August

- 16** "Under the Stars" Car Show in Perkasio
- 22** Pennridge Community Center Luau Dinner Dance with The Blue Notes
- 23** Perkasio FD Scrap Metal Drive

September

- 1** Labor Day – Township Closed
- TBA** "Gallery of the Arts" in Sellersville
- 21** Perkasio FD Breakfast
- 26** Pennridge Community Center Autumn Daze Dinner Dance with The Good Times Band
- 28** "Septemberfest" at James Park

October

- 12** Sellersville FD Ham Dinner 11 am – 5 pm
- 19** Perkasio FD Breakfast
- 24** Pennridge Community Center Fall Ball Dinner Dance with Gary Dee
- 25** Perkasio FD Scrap Metal Drive
- 31** Halloween

East Rockhill Township Contact Information

1622 N. Ridge Road, Perkasio, PA 18944

Telephone: 215-257-9156 • Fax: 215-257-1299 • www.eastrockhilltownship.org

Board of Supervisors:

David R. Nyman, Chair
Gary W. Volovnik, Vice-Chair
Jim C. Nietupski, Member

Meetings:

The Board of Supervisors: Work Sessions are the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. and Regular Meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m., unless posted otherwise

Planning Commission: Work Sessions are the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and Regular Meetings are the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m., as needed.

Zoning Hearing Board: meetings are scheduled as needed

UCC Joint Appeal Board: Second Wednesday of month as needed at 7 p.m.

Recreation Committee: 4th Thursday of every other month at 7 p.m., as needed

Police Commission: 4th Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at 200 Ridge Road

Administrative Staff:

Township Manager
Marianne K. Morano
manager@astrockhilltownship.org

Zoning Officer and BCO
Michael Gardner
inspector@astrockhilltownship.org

Administrative Assistant
Gina Wooler
gwooler@astrockhilltownship.org

Public Works
Jeff Scholl, Director
works@astrockhilltownship.org

Paul Behr, Mechanic
Kirby Richards, Laborer

Pennridge Regional Police Department:
200 Ridge Road
Sellersville, PA 18960
Non Emergency Telephone: 215-257-5104
Emergency Telephone: 911

Tax Collector: Kathleen Percetti;
Mailing address:
P.O. Box 68, Perkasio, PA 18944
Telephone: 215-453-8866
Office Address: 2037 Hill Road,
Sellersville, PA 18960

OFFICE HOURS & PHONE NUMBERS

Unless Otherwise Noted

Administrative Office: Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, unless posted otherwise, 215-257-9156

Road and Public Services: Monday through Friday from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm, 215-257-9156

Building and Zoning: Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm 215-257-9156
*unless otherwise noted

Police Emergency: 24 Hours – 911

Police Non-Emergency: 215-257-5104

Fire Emergency: 911

Tax Collector: 215-453-8866

From The Pennridge Regional Police Department

Throughout the year, officers demonstrate exemplary performance, dedication and bravery. Each year, we honor an officer who went "above and beyond" in performance. The 2013 Officer of the Year Award goes to Sgt. Patrick Karcher.

Sgt. Karcher began his law enforcement career in 1984, working as a part-time police officer for East Rockhill Township. Three years later, he began his full-time law enforcement career with the Borough of Sellersville.

Sgt. Karcher began his career with the Pennridge Regional Police Department in 1992 and is a founding member of the department. His exemplary performance began early in his career and followed him through to today. He has served on the Upper Bucks Special Response Team, the Bucks County Mass Incident Response Team and has been sworn in as a "Special County Detective" to engage in multi-jurisdictional narcotics investigations.

Pat has proven to be a leader throughout his career. In April 2005, Pat was promoted to Sergeant after a competitive testing process, formalizing his leadership within the department. In 2012, Sgt. Karcher celebrated his 25th year anniversary in policing.

In 2013, Sgt. Karcher made 21 arrests for various crimes, including prescription drug distribution, sexual assaults and burglary.

In addition to his patrol duties, he took control over several administrative functions. Sgt. Karcher was the department's JTAC Coordinator, keeping all officers connected to the Commonwealth justice network. He maintains the department's PennDOT CRASH system as the department's administrator. Sgt. Karcher maintained the department's patrol schedule and used no sick time throughout the year.



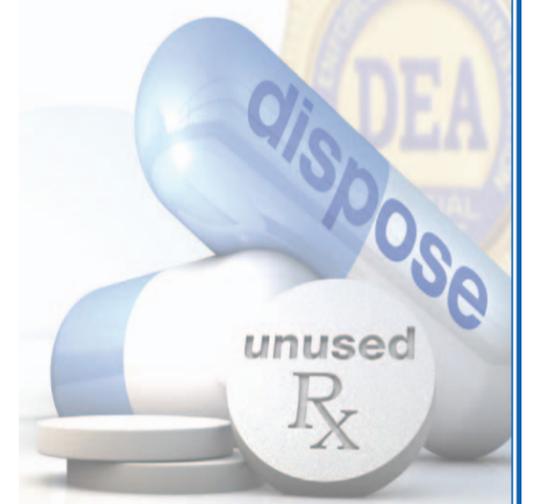
From left, Sgt. Patrick Karcher, Pennridge Regional Police Commission Chairman Jay Keyser, and Chief David Mettin.

Got Drugs?

The Pennridge Regional Police Department is taking part in a "drug take back" program coordinated by the Bucks County District Attorney's Office, County Detectives, and the DEA.

The department purchased a **Med Return Drop Box**, which is in the waiting room of the PRPD building at 200 Ridge Road.

Citizens can drop unwanted medication into the box anonymously with no questions asked. The box is routinely emptied and medications promptly turned over to the District Attorney's office for proper disposal.



C. ROBERT WYNN ASSOCIATES, INC.

MUNICIPAL & CIVIL ENGINEERING

**C. Robert Wynn, P.E.
President**

- Subdivision • Storm Drainage
- Site Development
- Floodplain Analysis
- Railroad Engineering
- Highway & Bridge Design

211 West Broad Street
Quakertown, PA 18951

TEL: (215) 536-7336
FAX: (215) 536-5361



**609 West Market Street
Perkasio, PA 18944**

**215.257.3400
215.257.3115 Fax
candccafe@verizon.net**

Catering Available

Hours
Monday-Sunday: 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
Parking In Rear



HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT THE FIRE COMPANY

With its substation in the Township, the Perkasie Fire Company provides valuable, life-saving services to our residents.

HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT THEIR EFFORTS:

PERKASIE FIRE DEPARTMENT

• **All You Can Eat Breakfast**

Third Sunday of Every Month - 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



The menu includes eggs, pancakes, waffles, cream dried beef, sausage, bacon, scrapple, home fries, assorted juices, coffee and more. They're also having a 50/50 drawing. The cost for breakfast is \$7 for adults and \$3.50 for children ages 4-12. Kids 3 and under eat for free.

• **Appliance and Scrap Metal Drive**

Fourth Saturday Every Other Month, April through October

8 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Collection held at Schoeller's Inc., 419 S. 5th Street in Perkasie.

The Perkasie Fire Company will accept household appliances and scrap metal as a recycling fund drive. Any metals will be collected and ecologically recycled. Appliances with refrigerants (refrigerators, freezers, air-conditioners, dehumidifiers, etc.) will be accepted with a \$30 donation, all proceeds of which will be forwarded to the fire company.



• **ANNUAL PERKASIE FIRE DEPT CARNIVAL**

June 24-28

EAGLE SCOUT



Will Maven completed his Eagle Scout project at the Willard H. Markey park by cleaning the nature trail, building bat houses and a nature trail sign.

SELLERSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

• **BINGO**

Every Thursday (except July) ~ 6:00 p.m.



• **ANNUAL SELLERSVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT CARNIVAL**



July 8-12

For more information on these events, visit our website at perkasiefd.org or call 215-257-6950.

WHAT IS STORMWATER?

When it rains or snows, the water soaks into the ground, evaporates back into the atmosphere or runs off. This runoff, also known as storm water, has some obvious impacts such as flooding and erosion. Some less obvious, but equally important, impacts of stormwater runoff include increased pollution, reduced ground water supplies, and lower stream flows during dry spells.

Traditionally, stormwater has been seen as a nuisance to be collected and dumped into the nearest ditch or stream and disposed of. Unfortunately, such an approach neglects the reality that most of us live or work downstream of someone else. As a result, our neighbor's nuisance becomes our problem, which in turn becomes a problem for our downstream neighbors.

How You Can Help

ONLY RAIN IN THE DRAIN – Never dump anything into a storm drain, including oil, paint, soap, debris, and leaves. Storm sewers don't go to the sewer plant but discharge directly into streams. You might be pouring oil into your own drinking water!



AUTO CARE – Washing your car at home on the driveway or street can send detergents and other contaminants through the storm sewer system. It is best to wash your car at a commercial car wash where the wastewater is treated and recycled. If you do wash your car at home, do so near a grassy area where the water can infiltrate into the ground. And never dump motor oil or antifreeze into the storm drain. Dispose of these at a local service station or approved recycling center.

PLANT NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS – Erosion of streambanks can be prevented through the use of vegetated strips along the banks. Also known as riparian buffers, these strips of tall grasses, trees and flowers act to stabilize banks, which prevents erosion and additional sediment load in the stream.

RESIDENTIAL LANDSCAPING

DOWNSPOUTS: Direct all downspouts away from pervious surfaces and onto lawns. Rain barrels can be used to collect water from downspouts, making it available for watering.

LAWN CARE: Fertilizers and pesticides should be used sparingly. When applied in excess, these chemicals are washed off by rainwater and enter the local storm sewer system. Do not sweep yard waste and leaves into the street. These add extra nutrients to streams.

RAIN GARDENS: A specially designed rain garden can be planted with native vegetation that will provide an area for rainwater to collect and soak into the ground. Stormwater from rooftop drains and pavement areas can be directed to these vegetated areas.



PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG – Pet waste can be a major source of excess nutrients and bacteria to our streams. Always properly dispose of pet waste.

I GET IT. DO YOU?



Want to be in the know? Sign up today to receive the latest township news and pertinent information regarding what is happening in our community. To receive monthly enews all you have to do is go to www.EastRockhillTownship.org or visit the Municipal Building and provide us with your email address.

LAPP'S LANDSCAPE PRODUCTS
Wholesale - Retail
 DOUBLE GROUND HARDWOOD MULCH
 WOOD CHIPS • LICORICE ROOT
 RED/BLACK/BROWN MULCH
 MUSHROOM SOIL • TOPSOIL
 TRIPLE GROUND HARDWOOD MULCH
215-257-9040
 1828 Old Bethlehem Pike • Sellersville

PICK-UP OR DELIVERY

BRING THIS COUPON IN TO
SAVE 15% off
ENGLISH OR WESTERN BOOTS
BUCKS COUNTY SADDLERY
 4765 York Road • Buckingham, PA 18912
 • 215-794-5411 •

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN: GREEN TIP BY A FEW STEPS

DON'T THROW OUT OLD RUGS

According to a recent green tip posted on aFewSteps.org, carpet is one of the major resources that ends up in landfills, yet it's one of the most flexible materials that can easily be recycled to its original form or transformed into another useful product.

Carpet is mainly composed of petroleum-based raw materials. Many carpet manufacturers have joined the green movement and are producing carpet that contains recycled content. Although carpet manufacturers are doing their best to recycle – currently only 10 percent of carpet is diverted from landfills.

In fact, in 2010 the Carpet America Recovery Effort (CARE) and the Carpet and Rug Institute (CRI), reported that 3.4

billion pounds of carpet were discarded in the U.S.

Together consumers and manufacturers can make a difference by carpet recycling – for every 250,000 square yards of carpet that is reclaimed, 1.1 million pounds are diverted from landfills and 110,000 gallons of oil are saved.

Not only does carpet recycling save resources and energy, but it also creates employment. For every one million pounds of post-consumer carpet recycled, two jobs are created. So instead of sending old rugs to the landfill, offer them to local animal shelters or contact CARE and help reduce the amount of resources ending up in landfills.

(To read the full article visit <http://afewsteps.org>)

DON'T TOP TREES!

According to a recent bulletin published by the Arbor Day Foundation, the practice of tree topping is senseless and brutalizing to older trees and should be stopped. This common practice to reduce the size of a tree is misunderstood and homeowners should consider alternate practices that are safer, cheaper and more effective.



Topping is the indiscriminate cutting of tree branches to stubs or lateral branches that are not large enough to assume the terminal role. Other names for topping include "heading," "tipping," "hat-racking," and "rounding over."

The most common reason given for topping is to reduce the size of a tree. Homeowners often feel that their trees have become too large for their property. People fear tall trees may pose a hazard.

Topping, however, is not a viable method of height reduction and certainly does not reduce the hazard. In fact, topping will make a tree more hazardous in the long term.

Why is Tree Topping Bad for the Tree?

Topping Stresses Trees and Causes Decay

Topping often removes 50 to 100 percent of the leaf-bearing crown of a tree. Because leaves are the food factories of a tree, removing them can temporarily starve a tree and cause decay if it

can't close the wounds where it has been cut. A stressed/decaying tree is also more vulnerable to insect and disease infestations.

Topping Creates Hazards

Stubs left from topping usually decay and the shoots that are produced below the cut are weakly attached, and often become a hazard.

Topping is Expensive

The cost of topping a tree is not limited to the cost to top. If the tree survives, it will require further pruning, due to the weakness of its limbs, it may be costly to clean up after a storm, and if the tree dies it will need to be removed. There are also hidden costs in the potential liability due to its weakness. Topped trees are prone to breaking and can be hazardous.

What Are the Alternatives?

Pruning

There are times when the size and shape of a shade tree need to be controlled. With care and skill, through a pruning method called crown reduction, this can be accomplished without marring the tree's beauty or usefulness.

Choosing Wisely – be sure and know what you are planting by choosing the right tree for the right place. Know how large it will grow at maturity, so you can plan for the perfect spot to plant the tree.

From The Historical Society . . .

The West Rockhill Historical Society meets on the second Monday of each month at 7pm at the West Rockhill Township Building (1028 Ridge Road). Membership is open to anyone interested in history. Members can participate as "active" or "contributing" members. Annual dues are \$10 payable each September (\$15 Family Membership). However, membership is encouraged at any time during the year.

For more information, visit
<http://www.westrockhillhistoricalsociety.org>.

Each meeting features a guest speaker:

June 9	Bucks County Pottery (Paul Flack)
July 14	Members Picnic
August 11	What Is It & What Is It Worth? (Ellen Schroy) appraisal for one item per person
September 8	Sellersville, the Town Thru Time (Marty Steely)
October 13	Bucks County Covered Bridges (Bill Wilson)
November 10	Historical Sites (Shelby Splain)
December 8	Members Christmas party - entertainment by Emil Klinger & Sons

DISTRICT COURT REPORTS INCREASE IN CRIMINAL CASELOAD

Criminal cases filed in the area's District Court in Perkasie increased by 10 percent over the prior year, Perkasie District Judge Charles W. Baum reported recently.

Total criminal cases filed by local and state police for 2013 numbered 454, compared to 411 for 2012, according to Baum, now in his ninth year as the local magistrate. The judge noted he is seeing more and more driving under the influence of drugs cases than in previous years.

Total caseload figures for District Court 07-2-03 were about the same as last year when traffic, non-traffic, landlord-tenant and civil cases are added in. Four years ago, total caseload was 3,601, while this year the number is 5,275, said Baum, explaining that his court's territory expanded in 2010 when Milford Township and Trumbauersville Borough were shifted from the Quakertown court to his jurisdiction.

For 2013, traffic citations were up 3 percent from 3,825 to 3,950. Non-traffic cases such as truancies, disorderly conducts, municipal violations and state game violations were down 14 percent from last year. Landlord-tenant filings also decreased 15 percent, while civil cases (under \$12,000 in value) decreased by 25 percent.

Judge Baum's court also covers Perkasie and Sellersville boroughs, East and West Rockhill Townships and the Bucks County side of Telford Borough. The district court is located in the ReMax building, first floor, at Seventh and Market streets in downtown Perkasie.

The court receives the majority of its citations and criminal complaints from four local police departments: Perkasie, Pennridge Regional, Telford and Pennsylvania State Police in Dublin. For most citizens, this "grass roots" level of the judicial system is the only court that they will ever encounter. In criminal cases, district judges advise defendants of their rights, set their initial bail and hold preliminary hearings to determine if cases should be bound over for county court. There are 20 district judges in Bucks County.

The court is open weekdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and the court phone number is 215-257-5181.



District Justice Charles H. Baum

From the Desk of Kathleen Percetti, Tax Collector



Kathleen Percetti, Tax Collector

The county and township real estate taxes were mailed on February 28 and are now due in the discount amount by April 30 or face amount by June 30. After June 30, they are due in the penalty amount. The school real estate taxes will be mailed on July 1 and are due in discount amount by August 31 or the face amount until October 31. After October 31, the school taxes will be due in penalty until the end of the year.

If you would like to pay the school bills in installments, the first installment must be postmarked by August 31. The remaining two installment coupons will be included with your original bill. The second installment is due on October 31 and the final installment is due on December 15. Please note that if you elect to opt in to pay by installments, you cannot opt out after the first payment is made.

Please note that if you are paying your taxes after December 15, no personal checks will be accepted. Please pay with a certified check until December 31. All taxes will be liened to the Bucks County Tax Claim Office if not received by December 31.

If the property you own is your primary residence, you may be eligible to receive a reduction in your school tax bill as part of the Pennsylvania Taxpayer Relief Act. You may download the Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion Form and Instructions from a link that I have made available on our township's website. Click on Living Here then Tax Collection which will bring you to my page where the form can be printed out and mailed to Bucks County Board of Assessment 55 East State Street Doylestown, PA 18901. If you do not have access to a computer or have any questions, please contact myself or the Bucks County Board of Assessment at 215-348-6219.

If you would like to verify that your tax payments were received or have any other concerns, please contact me at 215-453-8866 or by email at eastrockhilltax@comcast.net. I would be happy to assist you with any questions that you have.

Welcome to Senator McIhinney

As of January 1, Chuck McIhinney is now East Rockhill's representative in the Pennsylvania State Senate's 10th District. He replaces Sen. Bob Mensch, whose support over the last several years we appreciate.

Sen. McIhinney's local office is located at 22 S. Main Street in Doylestown.

You can reach his staff at 215-489-5000.

For more information, visit the Senator's website.

http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/home/member_information/senate_bio.cfm?id=22.



From the Pennridge Community Center

The Pennridge Community Center, located at 146 East Main Street in Silverdale (intersection of routes 113 and 152), offers a wide variety of activities for residents 55 or older who live in local municipalities, including East Rockhill Township.



Day programs and activities at the Senior Center include aerobic classes, art classes, belly dancing classes, billiards, bingo, blood pressure screenings, bridge club, ceramic classes, chair massage, chess club, choral group, haircuts, card games, line dancing, Mahjong, Pinochle, Tai Chi classes, Zumba classes, reading, writing and research class, and word games.

The Center can also be rented for special events, such as bridal showers or wedding receptions.

For only \$12 per calendar year, the Center offers many classes and activities, dances, and the opportunity to volunteer at and for the Center. Stop by and renew your membership, and bring along a friend or relative to show them the Center and hopefully they will join, too.

One way to get to the Center in inclement weather is to use Bucks County Transportation. They will pick you up at your house and bring you to the Center, and of course, return you to home. There is a nominal fee.

For more information, call the center at 215.453.7027.



Bucks County Veteran's Transportation Program

Since November 2001, Bucks County has been providing transportation to military veterans to VA Hospitals in Philadelphia and Coatesville. The Transportation Program, which is overseen by the Bucks County Department of Veteran Affairs, has carried over 11,000 veterans. The bus runs five days a week covering all of Bucks County.

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR VETERANS TO USE THIS SERVICE.

The program is unique because it is not funded with tax dollars. Instead, it depends on donations and proceeds from an annual golf outing. In addition, the VA Hospital in Coatesville pays for all maintenance, fuel, and insurance.

Please pass this information onto any veteran that you may know.

For more information or to schedule a ride, please call Betty at 215-345-3885.



NO HUNTING ON TOWNSHIP OWNED PROPERTY

We remind everyone that no hunting is allowed on Township open space. The law states no person shall hunt for, capture, kill or attempt to capture or kill, or aid or assist in the capturing or killing of, in any manner, any wild bird or wild animal of any description.

A conviction for violating this Ordinance is a fine of \$1,000, plus costs.



Join in the Great American Cleanup

Everyone wants to live, work, and play in a clean and green community. You are invited to join Pennsylvanians across the state – and Americans across the nation – for the Great American Cleanup.

You can participate in the 2014 Great American Cleanup of PA by cleaning up litter and trash along our roadsides, streams, beaches, parks, forests and neighborhoods. During the Great American Cleanup of PA, which is held from March 1 to May 31, registered events can get free cleaning supplies, such as bags, gloves and vests donated by PennDOT and Keep America Beautiful.

Since its inception in 2004, more than 1.4 million volunteers



have picked up 68 million pounds of litter and waste, 118,702 miles of road have been cleaned, and 98,000 trees, bulbs, and flowers have been planted. Community and civic associations, schools and youth groups, families and friends, business employees, hunting and fishing clubs, conservation organizations, sports teams, and others can organize their members and participate in the Great American Cleanup of PA.

To learn more about keeping your community clean, please contact Michelle Dunn, Program Coordinator of the Great American Cleanup of PA, at 724-836-4121 x113 or mdunn@keepabeautiful.org.

WHY YOU SHOULD RECYCLE



For years, the township was able to operate the Recycling Center at no cost to taxpayers. A vendor provided free pick up of co-mingled glass and metal items as well as paper and cardboard.

That has changed for 2014, adding a \$10,000 unanticipated expense to the township budget.

You can help us reduce that expense by taking advantage of recycling services built into the cost of your trash collection and offered by your trash hauler, which is required by law.

Republic Services, for example, offers a RecycleBank Program, which pays reward points to customers based on the volume they recycle. Because Republic collects recycling single-stream, you will be able to put ALL recycling in one container without sorting your materials. The more you recycle, the more points you earn for discounts and specials at your favorite local shops and restaurants.

Republic offers its service for \$21.32 per month, the same price it charges customers in the trash district.

Check with your trash hauler for more details about recycling.



Bucks County Veteran's Transportation Program

Since November 2001, Bucks County has been providing transportation to military veterans to VA Hospitals in Philadelphia and Coatesville. The Transportation Program, which is overseen by the Bucks County Department of Veteran Affairs, has carried over 11,000 veterans. The bus runs five days a week covering all of Bucks County.

THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR VETERANS TO USE THIS SERVICE.

The program is unique because it is not funded with tax dollars. Instead, it depends on donations and proceeds from an annual golf outing. In addition, the VA Hospital in Coatesville pays for all maintenance, fuel, and insurance.

Please pass this information onto any veteran that you may know.

For more information or to schedule a ride, please call Betty at 215-345-3885.



Always you. Always QNB.

Yesterday. Today. Tomorrow.

Your Community Bank

Call: 215-538-5600 Click: www.qnbbank.com

Member FDIC

Visit: Any of our 11 convenient offices in Colmar, Coopersburg, Dublin, Pennsburg, Perkasie, Quakertown, Souderton, Warminster & Wescosville

Rockhill Auto Repair Inc.
Automobile Repair and Maintenance

215-257-9764
After Hours: 267-265-5886
www.rockhillauto.com
E-mail: service@rockhillauto.com
Mon-Fri 7AM to 6PM
Sat by Appointment

At 904 Ridge Road Sellersville, PA 18960

JK TOPSOIL

PICK UP OR DELIVERY Monday~Saturday Sellersville

Our Professional Uniformed Staff Working For You Since 1985!

HOMEOWNERS ~ LANDSCAPERS ~ COMMERCIAL ~ MUNICIPAL

10% OFF orders of 5 yards or more!
Present at delivery. Expires 11/15/14

~ Screened or Course Fill Dirt	~ Deco Stone
~ Mushroom Soil	~ Driveway Stone
~ Mushroom Soil Mix	~ 5 Varieties of Mulch
~ Landscape Products	~ Compost Mixes
	~ Estimating

215-453-9900 www.jktopsoil.com

Supervisors Notebook

BOARD REORGANIZES



At a reorganization meeting on January 6, Dave Nyman was elected Chairman of the Board of Supervisors. Gary Volovnik, marking the start of his 31st year on the board, was elected Vice-Chairman. Jim Nietupski is the third board member.

Nietupski was appointed as East Rockhill's 2014 representative to the Pennridge Regional Police Commission, with Volovnik and Nyman serving as alternates.

Grim, Biehn & Thatcher was re-appointed township solicitor; C. Robert Wynn Associates was re-appointed township engineer.

The members of the Zoning Hearing Board, Planning Commission, and Park and Recreation board remain the same as last year. Visit our website for details.

2014 also marks the beginning of Kathleen Percetti's fourth 4-year term as the township's elected Tax Collector. Her dedication to the community is much appreciated.

SUPERVISORS ADOPT 2014 BUDGET

The township's 2014 \$3.4 million spending plan holds the line on property taxes but includes a small increase in sewer rates to offset the expense of a Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Plant electrical upgrade.

The current property tax rate in East Rockhill is 8.135 mills, equaling about \$325 on a home assessed at the township average. Each mill equals \$1 of tax per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

While the budget includes a reduction in our allocation to the Pennridge Regional Police Department, it does call for important infrastructure, such as overlaying main roads, for the first time in many years.

Sewer bills for residential properties hooked up to the public sewer system would go from the current \$110 per quarter, to \$120 per quarter (\$480 for the year).

In another budget-related matter, as they have done in the past, each of the three East Rockhill board members agreed to not accept their salary in that position next year.

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!

"We make a living by what we get; We make a life by what we give." – Winston Churchill

Did you know East Rockhill Township has five fire companies that service our community? If you would like to make a difference and volunteer for your community by becoming a volunteer firefighter or by just volunteering to help out in some other capacity please contact the Dublin, Haycock, Perkasio, Sellersville or Quakertown fire department as they are always accepting applications. Volunteer applications can be picked up at the station or downloaded from their respective websites.



2014 Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Household Hazardous Waste Collection & Old Computer Collection Program

Many household products contain chemicals that when discarded contribute to the contamination of our environment by contaminating our soil, air and water. A Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program provides the opportunity to reduce the amount of hazardous household chemical waste that is flushed down the toilet and kitchen drains, "disposed" of in the backyard, dumped into storm drains or simply disposed of in the municipal waste stream. These typical means of disposal are both hazardous to public health and unnecessary. Yet, it continues because individuals are frequently unaware that many useful products contain hazardous chemicals.

It is the consumer's responsibility to use and dispose of household products safely. Certain household waste should be brought to community household hazardous waste collection events for proper disposal.

RID YOUR HOME AND GARAGE OF HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE and that OLD COMPUTER SYSTEM or TV's: Participate in the Bucks County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Program.

Five collection events are scheduled in Bucks County:

HAZARDOUS WASTE ONLY

May 10, 2014
Lower Makefield Corporate Center, 770 Township Line Road - Lower Makefield Twp.

June 21, 2014
Upper Bucks County Area Vo-Tech School, 3115 Ridge Road - Bedminster Twp.

July 19, 2014
Central Bucks South High School, 1100 Folly Road – Warrington Twp.

ELECTRONICS ONLY

June 28, 2014
Palisades Middle School
4710 Durham Road, Nockamixon Twp.

July 26, 2014
Central Bucks South High School
1100 Folly Road, Warrington Twp.

Some Items Being Collected Include:

- Pesticides such as Chlordane, Sevin, DDT or Malathion;
- Toxic materials such as weed killer, mercury, pool chemicals, photographic chemicals, rust remover; and wood preservatives;
- Flammable materials such as oil-based paints, varnishes, paint strippers, thinners, gasoline, kerosene, and other solvents;
- Caustics such as oven cleaner, lye, and ammonia based cleaners
- Household rechargeable and button type batteries, as well as automotive type batteries.

DO NOT BRING (they will not be accepted):

LATEX PAINT (see below), Appliances (including air conditioners and dehumidifiers), Asbestos, Infectious or Biological waste, Explosives (ammunition), Gas Cylinders (greater than 20 lbs.), PCB's, Pressurized CFC's (greater than 1 lb.) Radioactive wastes (dispose of smoke detectors in the regular waste or contact product manufacturer for take back program), or Tires.

Whenever possible, material should be in its original container with an original, legible label.

Amounts up to 25 gallons or 220 pounds will be accepted at no charge to residents. This event is not open to business, industry or institutions.

Following are suggestions on how to handle some of the materials you may have around the house which may, or may not, be accepted as part of a household hazardous waste collection program.

LATEX PAINT: Air dry latex paint or mix with an absorbent ("oil-dry" or clay based kitty litter at the rate of about 1 gallon of paint to 2-4 cups of absorbent) and discard absorbed paint and paint can, with its lid off, in regular trash. EMPTY paint cans may be placed with recyclables in many municipal recycling programs (check with your hauler or municipal officials).

SMOKE ALARMS: Mail back to manufacturer, or dispose of in regular trash.

BAR-B-Q GRILL TANKS (20lb or less): Return to a tank exchange location, or bring to collection program.

TIRES: Contact nearest major tire retailer. (Anticipate a charge of \$5.00 to \$10.00 per automobile tire).

USED MOTOR OIL: Contact your local automobile repair shop.

Call the Bucks County Planning Commission at 345-3400 if you would like to receive additional information.

Gall Vasquez
Realtor, e-Pro, e-Agent
Cell: 215-514-8449
Fax: 215-240-7952
e-mail: vasquez4@comcast.net
Visit my website at www.gallvasquez.com
To view thousands of listings...updated daily!

"A name your friends recommend"

2003 S. Easton Rd, Suite 108
Doylestown, PA 18901
Office: 215-340-5700x161

KELLER WILLIAMS
REAL ESTATE

Meeting our community's health-care needs for 100 years

GVH GRAND VIEW HOSPITAL
A Century STRONG

www.gvh.org | 215-453-4000

Animal Lodge
Boarding and Grooming

Hours by Appointment

Warm Hearts for Cold Noses

20% OFF
Boarding or Grooming

35 Middle Road • Dublin, PA
www.animalodgebucks.com 215.249.1801

Family Owned & Operated

BOYLE'S HEATING & COOLING
Quakertown, PA

215-536-9235
Sales • Service • Installation
boylesheatingandcooling.com

- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Gas & Oil Heating Systems
- Oil Delivery
- Heat Pumps
- Air Conditioning
- Budget & Pre-Pay Oil Plans

PA 5383 find us on Facebook

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP

A TALE OF TWO BRIDGES

Rockhill Road



Contractors began work on the Rockhill Road bridge replacement in early March, a project that is expected to take about five months to complete.

In January, the Board of Supervisors awarded an \$837,393 contract to Flyway Excavating of Lititz for the project. The township has already spent about \$250,000 for engineering, bringing the total cost to almost \$1.1 million.

We are continuing our efforts to have the project included on the state's Transportation Improvement Program, which would make it eligible for reimbursement for as much as 80 percent of the costs.

The stone arch bridge was built in 1901 and rehabbed in 1988. Because of safety concerns at the deteriorating bridge, it had been narrowed and stop signs placed at each end.

Schwenkmill Road



Plans have been revised to address comments from the Pennsylvania Historic and Museum Commission and will now be submitted to PennDOT's Bridge unit for review and approval since Bucks County Liquid Fuels money is scheduled to be used for this project.

All other permits/approvals have been obtained. It is anticipated to be out for bid by May 2014.

We appreciate your patience as these projects move forward.

5th Street Basin - Before and After



Before

Funded by a grant from the State Department of Environmental Protection and Bucks County, the naturalized stormwater detention basin is designed to current DEP standards that will help reduce nonpoint source pollution and help maintain water quality.



After

WALKING PATH COMPLETE

The Perkasio Regional Authority concluded its cooperative agreement with East Rockhill Township with the completion of a pedestrian path leading from Schoolhouse Road to Markey Park.

The first portion of the trail, which parallels Three Mile Run Road from the Railroad Bridge to Schoolhouse Road, was completed in August 2011 at a cost of \$161,825.

This final section was completed October, 2013, at a cost of \$69,285. The path provides a convenient access to the Township Park for the residents in the Three Mile Run/Ridge Run area.

We appreciate PRA's efforts and encourage our residents to make use of this wonderful amenity.



Driving Range Is Open

Tokens are available from a dispenser at Markey Park, 1418 Ridge Road, for \$5 each.

Tokens can also be purchased Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the Township Office, 1622 N. Ridge Road.

You can buy them there for \$5 each or seven (7) for \$33.

Senior citizens can purchase tokens for \$4.50 apiece.

AROUND THE TOWNSHIP



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!
MOOD'S COVERED BRIDGE
11a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

To celebrate the 140th anniversary of the beloved bridge, which has overcome so much adversity in recent years, the Mood family is holding a reunion at the site on June 7. One family member is flying in from Hawaii for the special day.

The event is co-sponsored by Bucks County Covered Bridge Society. Stop by and learn the history of the Mood's Bridge.

Township Receives State Grant for Traffic Light

We're pleased to announce the township was recently awarded a \$160,000 grant from Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to place a traffic light at the heavily traveled T-intersection marked as state routes 313 and 563.

Our share of the project cost will be about \$5,000.

Supervisor Jim Nietupski said the township has received letters from residents talking about the difficulties and dangers of turning onto busy Dublin Pike from Mountain View Drive.

"I think we're going to move right out on this without hesitation," Nietupski said of the traffic-light project.



Have Your Next Outdoor Gathering at Markey Park



The Markey Park Picnic Pavilion is available for reservation for family or company picnics.

Does Your Organization Need A Field?

The township has a number of fields available this spring and summer, including:

- Soccer fields at Steel Covered Bridge (Branch Road)
- Soccer fields at Markey Park
- Softball field at Markey Park

Please call the township office (215-257-9156) for rental agreement details.

The non-refundable permit fee:

- for parties less than 25 people is \$35
- for parties more than 25 people is \$75.

If you have to cancel, the permit fee can be applied to an alternate date within a year.

A refundable deposit/security deposit of \$100 is required and is returned as long as the facility is left in the same condition as it is found.

The application to reserve the Markey Park Pavilion can be found on the township's website.

Please remember that all dogs must be on a secured leash and pet owners are expected to pick up after their pets.