Spring 2014

Westtown Train Station C.1890

The Gander The Newsletter of Thornbury Township, Chester County

The Chairman's Corner

This year so far we have had an extremely tough winter season: Mother Nature has sent us many challenges that I'm sure all residents are ready to say make it stop already. This year, the Township has endured 13 winter storm events, 9 of which have required plowing and all of which have required salting. We are already over budget for snow and ice removal for calendar year 2014 and we will have to make adjustments to the township's budget again this year to ensure that we end the year in a balanced manner. The good news is that the budget is a "living" document and it is relatively easy to make the changes required to both procure high quality road care for our residents and make sure that we finish 2014 in the black.

The Township has received a total of six complaints for the entire season so far, the Road Master is addressing them. There have been no reported accidents in the Township due to the weather. A real debt of gratitude is due to Steve Zippi and his road crews, Roadmaster and Mike Aiello, whose attention to detail and long hours have kept our roads clear and safe.

This should be an interesting year in Thornbury – we have two outstanding new Supervisors who I believe will help to bring a positive change to the way business is conducted by the Board of Supervisors. Both George Stasen and Bill Reilly will be attentive to the needs of the residents of the Township and will listen carefully to their concerns. If conflicting concerns are expressed, they will carefully weigh the pros and cons and, in the end, do what they think is best for the Township as a whole.

As a Board and a Township we will try to forge a better relationships with our neighboring Townships. We will attempt to work cooperatively on problems that involve one or more of our neighbors. In addition, we will encourage our neighbors to keep us informed about actions that may impact us and we will do the same in return.

Let me extend an invitation to everyone to attend our Supervisors meetings - they are scheduled for the third Tuesday of each month starting at 7 pm in the Township Building. The Board will be respectful of all input from its constituents and will conduct its business in a professional manner. On occasion, if a specific issue elicits passionate discussion, we will keep the discussion focused on the merits, and where there is disagreement, it will be civil in nature.

Our Township Manager, Brody Bovero has relocated back to Utah and has accepted a City Manager position there and he will be missed. The selection committee currently is looking for a replacement that is a very energetic individual and can bring with him/her some very good ideas about how to improve the way the Township can communicate with its residents to keep them informed about Township activities and to be more responsive to residents complaints/concerns.

We do have a few opportunities for residents to participate in Township business on a volunteer basis on some of the Township's Commissions and Committees. Specifically, at this time, we have openings on the Parks and Recreation Commission and the Historical Preservation Commission. Anyone who might be interested is encouraged to send a letter to Teresa DeStefano indicating the position you are interested in filling along with a resume of your background.

Support our township businesses and please remember to recycle.

Bob Anthony

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Historic Preservation Commission/Pennyscroft:

Pennyscroft

The Historic Preservation Commission presents another in its series of articles on the historic houses in the township. In this issue the topic is Pennyscroft at 1343 Creek Road in Cheyney.

Pennyscroft was built in the late nineteenth century, when naming rural estates was popular.
Dr. Spencer Trotter (1860-1931), a natural history professor at Swarthmore College, bought the two-plus-acre Creek Road property in 1888, and built his house soon after, having its dressed blue-gray granite carted by horse from New Jersey. The land had been part of the original lands of the Cheyney family dating back to 1720.

Pennyscroft is representative of other large Thornbury Township houses of its era. First, it was built far back from the dusty road, affording its occupants a sweeping view of the rural countryside and passers-by a distant glimpse of the imposing residence.

Second, it was finished in a conservative, yet eclectic, architectural style. The plan and façade of the house's central core is essentially Georgian: a symmetrical five-bay block with a central hall. The cross-gable, centered high above the entrance, was a common Gothic revival detail, as was the open porch sweeping across the front. It was more than a stylistic feature, however. In an era when air-conditioning was a cool breeze, the porch afforded shade, shelter, and the hope for a waft of fresh air. The mansard (or French) roof became popular in the United States after the Civil War and was the primary element in the short-lived Second Empire style. Stylistically the mansard roof was a bit passé by 1888, but functionally it afforded headroom and usable space in the attic. The cornice brackets, traceable to ancient Rome, were more immediately identified with the Renaissance Revival (or Italianate) style, beginning in the 1840s.

In short, how many styles can we see in this house?

In addition to being a Swarthmore professor, Spencer Trotter helped found the Delaware Ornithological Club and served on the Council of Philadelphia's Academy of the Natural Sciences, where at various times he was also curator, librarian, and trustee. He appears to have lived at Pennyscroft less than a decade, losing the house in a Sheriff's sale in 1898. (His mother reacquired the house two years later.) Trotter spent his later years at his in-laws' house in West Chester, traveling extensively in the 1920s to Asia and Australia.

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Chester Creek Watershed:

Stormwater Is Everybody's Business

Stormwater picks up debris, chemicals, dirt, manure and other pollutants as it flows over surfaces such as driveways, roads and lawns. Without proper stormwater management, this polluted runoff flows untreated into our streams, rivers and wetlands.

Polluted stormwater runoff is the greatest threat to clean water!

Residents, municipalities, businesses and developers need to work together to prevent stormwater pollution.

Our streams and rivers supply

- Water for drinking
- Water for fishing
- Water for swimming
- Water for canoeing and boating
- Water for wildlife

BRANDYWINE VALLEY ASSOCIATION

For more info call
Brandywine Valley Association
610-793-1090
or visit our website at
www.brandywinewatershed.org

Sponsored and Paid for by:

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Caln Township
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East Caln Township
East Fallowfield Township
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Pennsbury Township
Pocopson Township
Sadsbury Township
South Coatesville Borough
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Upper Uwchlan Township
Uwchlan Township
Valley Township
West Bradford Township
West Brandywine Township
West Caln Township
West Chester Borough
West Goshen Township
West Pikeland Township
West Whiteland Township

Shredding:

Shredding Event

Saturday April 26, 2014

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

Protect your identity– shred your unneeded personal documents!

J & K will be at the Thornbury Township municipal building

to shred your personal documents for FREE!

Township Residents only; limit 4 boxes per household. No businesses please!

Property Owners Must Register Rentals

Many property owners may not realize that all rental properties must be registered with the Township and there are penalties involved for those who chose to ignore the rental registration.

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

Thornbury Township is trying to update it's rental information list. If you are not registered with the Township please call 610-399-1425 for a rental registration Form. If your property is listed, please continue to update the Township with any change of residents.

Retail Space In Thornbury Township:

Office/Retail Space For Lease Near Goose Creek Park

842 E. Street Road (Route 926)

Above the Westtown Post Office near the Goose Creek Grill

Approximately 1,600 square feet of commercial space in Thornbury Township is available for lease. The space is located at 842 E. Street Road, on the second floor above the Westtown Post Office near the Goose Creek Grill. The location is easily accessible and visible from Route 926 (Street Road) and is situated at the entrance of Goose Creek Park. The space includes two restrooms, secure access, central air, and plenty of parking. The property is owned and managed by Thornbury Township, Chester County. Please inquire by contacting Administration, Thornbury Township , at (610) 399-1425.

9th Annual Chester Creek Earth Day Clean Up

April 12, 2014 9—11 AM

Join West Chester Area residents and the Chester Ridley Crum Watersheds Association for the 9th annual Chester Creek clean up to remove trash from Goose Creek in West Chester and West Goshen. Last year, 413 volunteers removed 14 tons of trash and 42 tires from streamside and roadside areas in West Chester, West Goshen, East Goshen and Goose Creek Park in Thornbury Township. CRC will provide gloves for volunteers. Please notify Teresa DeStefano if you can attend:

Teresa DeStefano:

tdestefano@ thornburytwwp.com

Township Hosts Egg Hunt at Park:

Goose Creek Park Egg Hunt

Candy, Hot Dogs, Snacks, Balloons, Face Painters

Where: **Goose Creek Park**

Saturday

April 12 , 2012

12:30 p.m.— 3:00 p.m.

Hunt begins promptly at 1:00 p.m.

Trevor Talks:

Trevor would like for some of his other friends in the animal world from the Township to submit some tips or ideas they would like to share with the residents of Thornbury Township to

tdestefano@thornburytwp.com. Make sure to attach a picture. Again your pet doesn't have to be a dog or cat, any creature you call family we would love to hear from.

Now for Trevor's information: Keeping your pet on a leash. Please be advised that under Chapter 56 of the Township Code, dogs are required to be restrained with a collar and leash, chain, or other reasonable means. It is also unlawful to allow a dog to run at large through the neighborhood.

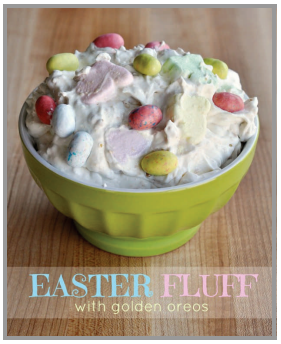
Please be aware that violation of this law can result in seizure and detention of the dog and/or fines up to $1,000 per violation.

As the weather improves, we canines love to go outside just like you. If you take your dog for a walk at Goose Creek Park, please take notice that mutt mittens are supplied at the park kiosk to help you pick up after your pet, as required by law. Its just a friendly courtesy provided to you by the Township. This helps everybody enjoy the park, and the weather. "

Tax Time in Thornbury Township:

The 2014 Thornbury Township Real Estate Tax Bills have been mailed.

The discount period ends on April, 30 2014.



Easter Golden OREO Fluff Dessert Recipe

Ingredients

1 small (3.3 oz) box White Chocolate instant pudding mix

2 cups milk

1 small tub Cool Whip

24 Golden OREOS, crushed

1 bag Spring Pastel colored marshmallows (or 2 cups plain mini marshmallows)

Instructions

In a large bowl whisk together the pudding mix and milk for 2 minutes. Refrigerate for 10 minutes.

Crush the OREOS in a bag with a mallet or run them through a food processor until small and chunky.

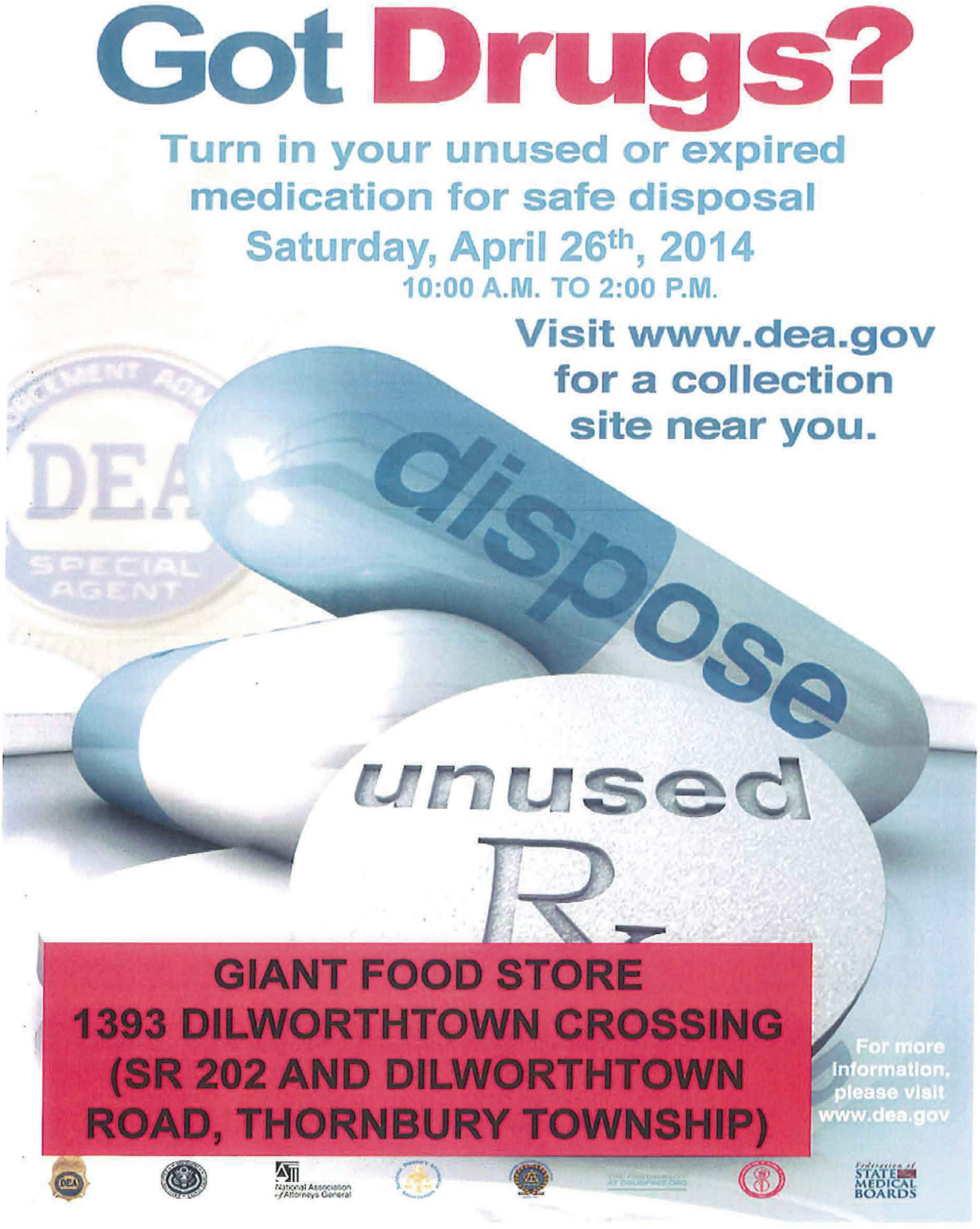
Add Cool Whip, OREOS and marshmallows to the pudding and stir.

Refrigerate until ready to serve.

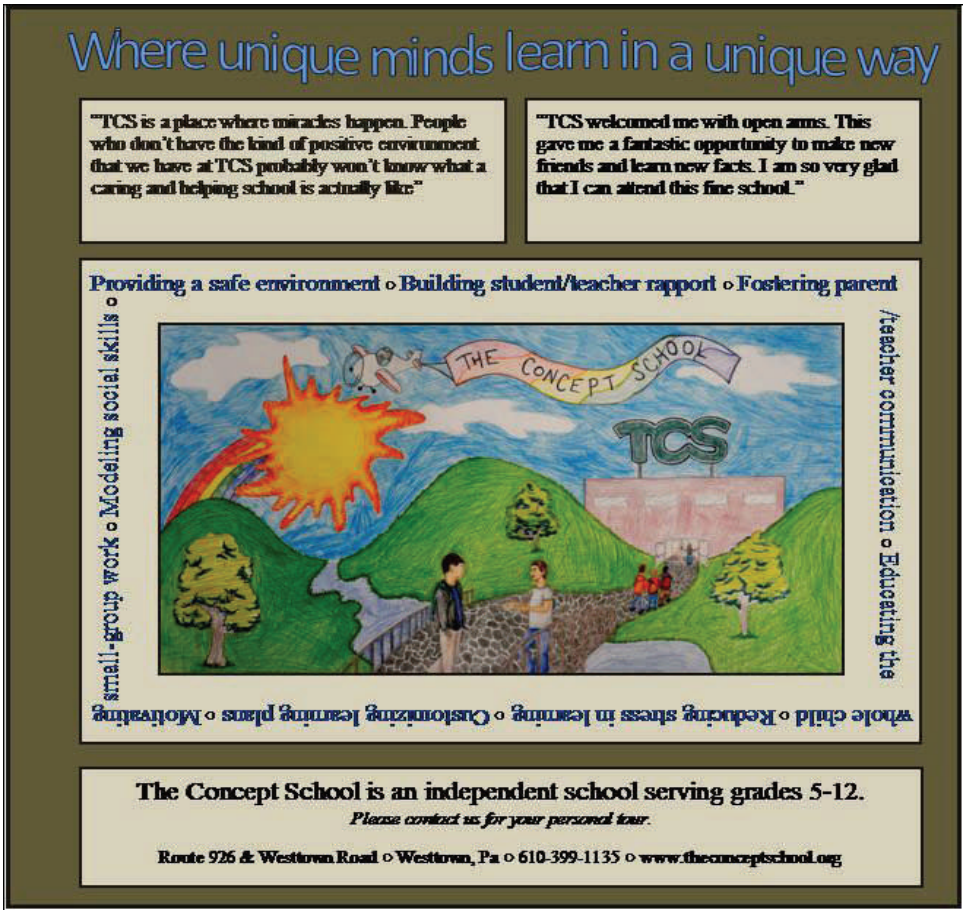
Attention Residents

Submit a family favorite recipe to administration@thornburytwp.com to be compiled into a Thornbury Township Residents Cook Book.

WEGO:


Got Drugs?
Turn in your unused or expired medication for safe disposal
Saturday, April 26th, 2014
10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.
Visit www.dea.gov for a collection site near you.
dispose
unused
Rx
GIANT FOOD STORE
1393 DILWORTHTOWN CROSSING
(SR 202 AND DILWORTHTOWN ROAD, THORNBURY TOWNSHIP)
For more information, please visit www.dea.gov
National Association of Attorneys General
Federation of STATE MEDICAL BOARDS

Concept School:



HPC/Pennyscroft:

(continued from page 2)

Spencer Trotter's father, Newbold Hough Trotter (1827-1898), , was a Philadelphia artist who worked directly from nature, painting both animals and landscapes. His travels took him to the American West and Africa. He studied briefly at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, but was largely self-taught as a painter. During his life, he exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Boston Athenaeum, and in New York. His painting, *Wounded Buffalo Pursued by Prairie Wolves,* was displayed at the 1876 Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia; General William T. Sherman purchased it for Army headquarters in Washington, D.C.

So where did the Trotters get the name Pennyscroft? A *croft* is a fenced or enclosed area of land, usually small and arable with a crofter's or tenant dwelling. The word is not uncommon in the Scottish highlands and is occasionally encountered in crossword puzzles. The father of the present owner of Pennyscroft suggests that the name may have come from *The Penny - Storyteller*, a book of stories in the oral tradition compiled in 1833 by William D. Strange of Oxford University. This is a fascinating conjecture. There is abundant evidence, however, that the word *croft* was incorporated into estates' names, from Ravenscroft in Philadelphia to Meadowcroft in Chester County. Regardless, it is an enchanting name for an imposing expression of Victorian taste in Thornbury Township.

(Thanks to MK Carroll, father of the current owner, for research and writing about Pennycroft, and to Chris Lang and Richard Webster of the HPC for this article.)

Thornbury Township, Chester County
8 Township Drive
Cheyney, PA 19319
Phone: (610) 399-1425
Fax: (610) 399-6714

Office Hours:
8 am—3 pm, M—F

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www.thornburytwp.com

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Richard Webster
Molly Morrison
Randell Spackman
Vacancy

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

Road Master
Mike Aiello

Fire Marshal
F. David Smiley

I'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU

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

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

tdestefano@thornburytwp.com

Sincerely,

Teresa DeStefano, Editor

To all our residents, like us on Facebook - Thornbury Township, Chester County to keep informed of all that is happening in the Township.

Thornbury Township is now on Twitter, Follow us @ twitter.com/ thornbury Chesco to be informed of all that is happening.