

Spring / Summer 2020

CHESTER HEIGHTS

BOROUGH BULLETIN

BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL BUILDING

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Stacey Smith

On January 18, Mayor Stacey Smith passed away surrounded by her family. A select few confidants were aware of her serious illness and when asked, she would often reply “I’ll tell you what you need to know and the rest is none of your business.” No one ever accused Stacey of being anything but forthright in her delivery! Despite her health struggles, Stacey co-spearheaded most of the new Community Events, designed the backdrops for our Easter Bunny and Santa photos, communicated often with the State Police, performed wedding ceremonies, visited local establishments and performed her duties as Mayor to the very best of her ability. In the words of her daughters, she “loved being mayor.” Mayor Smith made history by being the first female mayor of Chester Heights. Politics was her passion and a lifelong interest of hers, so to be elected to local office and complete a life well lived with the title “mayor” was something she was very grateful to experience. Those of us who knew her well will miss her immensely.



Borough Officials

New officials- We welcome back Fred Wood as our newly appointed Mayor and Susan Clarke as a re-elected member of Council. We welcome new Council members Natalie Anderson, Laura Lim and Dave Firkser. Here’s a little bit about each of them!

Laura Lim

As a newly elected councilwoman, I’m eager to jump in and serve our wonderfully diverse community while learning the processes of local government. I would first like to say thank you to all the residents I’ve had the opportunity to meet. I pledge to serve with civility and integrity; I owe it to our deserving community.



My family and I moved here in 2014 when my husband, Michael, took his last active duty assignment as the Air Force ROTC Commander at St. Joseph’s University. We chose to retire on the east coast to give our three sons the best education possible. We’ve been extremely impressed with the Garnet Valley School District and our sons’ educational experiences. More than anything, we’ve been so impressed with the warm welcome from the community and surrounding areas. Thank you.

As the newly appointed Public Utilities-Trash-Recycle Committee Chair, I’m excited to work on the various community events; the Creek Clean Up, and Recycle Day, etc. I look forward to growing this committee that supports our wonderful community. If you have any ideas that support the Borough’s Public Utilities-Trash-Recycle program, please feel free to email me at laura.lim@chesterheights.org, I would love to hear from you.

As the year unfolds, there will several events and opportunities for the community to volunteer or attend. Please come out and meet your council and fellow community members; we would love to meet you! If you need help from the borough or have a general concern, please contact the borough office at (610) 459-3400 or info@chesterheights.org. Lastly, the council meets the first Monday of every month at 7PM and all are welcome.

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Borough Officials *continued*

Natalie Anderson

Hello, I am Natalie Anderson, a long time Delaware County Resident and Real Estate Broker. I am passionate when it comes to helping and serving others.

I have a very rewarding career that lasted over a 40 year span helping individuals and families make good decisions in regards to buying their first home, or downsizing to a smaller home. I had the opportunity for years to manage and train people in the field. Lots of lesson learned.

My off time is spent hanging out with my grown-up kids and grandkids. I just saw a recent quote that says it all: "It's like visiting the best parts of one's life."

I am excited to start this Next chapter as Councilwoman Anderson and I thank you for the opportunity to serve out the appointment of the vacant seat. I am eager to be a member of our Council here in Chester Heights. My plan is to take my almost ten years experience on Brookhaven's Borough Council and bring the best of my projects there to our Borough. I would like to help introduce some programs to our senior community, meet new residents, and help to build a sense of community involvement as we celebrate the 75th Anniversary of our Founding. I will work hard to make a difference for our Borough.

Susan Clarke

I have been a resident of Chester Heights for more than 21 years. Formerly, I lived in Media for 13 years. My spouse, David M. Clarke, is retired and has been on Chester Heights Planning Commission since last year. We have one child, Evan, who graduated from Garnet Valley High School last year. I am also proud to be a cancer survivor since 2009!

I have worked in the chemical industry in various capacities for nearly 39 years. Presently, I am Planning Manager at Genesis Alkali Corporation where I plan and manage the balance between demand and supply. I have gained experience in accounting, finance, operations management, customer service, and systems implementation during my career. I have a B.S. in Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude, from Widener University, and an MBA in Accounting and Finance from Drexel University. I worked full time and went to school at night to complete my higher education.

Chester Heights has been a wonderful place to live. I come from very modest beginnings in upstate PA. Chester Heights felt like home when I first moved here. I am very proud to be a member of Chester Heights Borough Council and will strive to make the best decisions for our community. I am particularly passionate about open space because Chester Heights lies in the path of development between Media and Concord. Thank you for your support!



Dave Firkser

I am a lifelong Delaware County resident. I was born in Wallingford and I moved to Ridley Park with my wife in 2011 before our growing family laid down roots in Chester Heights in 2018. Our son, Nicholas, attends Concord Elementary School; our daughter, Hannah, attends preschool at the Rocky Run YMCA. When we are not busy with work, school or extracurricular activities we enjoy weekends at the Jersey Shore or trips to Citizen's Bank Park to catch a Phillies game.

After graduating from Strath Haven High School in 2002, I attended Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA and graduated with a BA in English in 2006. I began my career in Advertising & Media and over the past 13 years I have worked with some of the largest brands and advertising agencies in the United States. Currently I am the National Sales Director for All Points Media, an OOH media firm specializing in the development and execution of custom ad campaigns for their clients. Now that I have a couple of months under my belt on Council, I have this message for you;

Please be an active voice in your community by attending council meetings and/or volunteering for Chester Heights Committees. The present and future is decided by all of us and everyone has a voice. Stop by the Borough Office or visit the Borough website (www.chesterheights.org) to learn more about how you can become involved in our community.

Thank you to ALL the residents of Chester Heights for allowing me to serve as a Council Member! I look forward to working for and with our wonderful community.

Fred Wood

I was born in New York City in 1948. My family moved to Chester Heights in 1949 to live in my Grandfather's house known as Blossom Hill. Today this house is part of the Wawa Corporate Campus. I attended Westtown Friends School, Episcopal Academy and graduated high school from Salisbury School in Salisbury, Connecticut. In 1979 I graduated from Widener University with a BS in Business Administration. My professional career includes working in the ski industry, mining industry and retail industry. I spent 36 years working for Wawa, Inc in the store facilities department; retiring in 2013. Since retiring I have been working and living on the family farm on Wawa Road which I bought from my family in 2012. Currently, I am working on re-developing the former dairy farm into a locally relevant sustainable agricultural business. I have been involved with the Borough of Chester Heights since 1986 when I was appointed to the Borough Planning Commission. In 1990 I became a member of Borough Council where I served nearly 26 years. I currently volunteer about 20 hours per month for the USO at the Philadelphia Airport. This organization provides food, beverages and a comfortable place to rest for active and retired members of our Armed Services and their spouses. Though it was a sad event that brought me to this role, I am honored to hold the title "Mayor" and I look forward to serving.



Spelling of Llewellyn

Editor's Note:

The spelling of Llewellyn/Llewelyn was a hotly debated topic that we addressed as the communications committee in early 2018 when we took over the writing of this newsletter. We thought it would be easy to find the "correct" spelling of the word. We were wrong.

After the Fall/Winter Newsletter went out, we received an email from longtime resident Pat McFadden, upset that we were misspelling the word. We asked him to submit an article regarding this topic. And editorially speaking, we will spell the word with 4 L's in 2020 in all our publications beginning with this one. As far as working with PennDOT to change the street signs- that will go on the list the roads committee will tackle. Here is Mr. McFadden's submittal:

What's In A Name!

Well, getting the spelling correct is always best.

I've been asked to write something concerning the "infamous" short stretch of road in our lovely Borough that runs from Valleybrook Road heading easterly then bending to the south, past Lenni Road and Bishop Drive and onto Bodley Road, before it gets another name (Birney Hwy), and then another (Aston Mills Rd) along its route to Concord Road, this stretch having the name "Llewellyn Road".

When I moved to Chester Heights in 1975 with my wife Cherie and then two daughters Dawn and Aubrey, in the Valleybrook Townhouses, which is off Llewellyn Road, little did I know then that I would be privileged to one day purchase a piece of property on Llewellyn Road from Sam and Ruth Jobson. The name of the road seemed odd, but who cared, I was now an owner of a piece of land, and one day I would be able to design and build our home of now six, with the births of Marianne and Patrice.

After years of planning, wishing and hoping, and finding the money and contractor, Charlie Larkin, we moved into our new home on October 8, 1988 at "282" Llewellyn Road. I even got to pick the number "282" when given the option from the then Borough Secretary Rose Canuso.

Being the Building Inspector since 1978, I attended countless Borough Council meetings over some 36 years, and one meeting "we" noticed new street signs, green background with white letter, installed at various intersections, with three in particular getting my attention:

one at the intersection of Valleybrook Road, one at Lenni Road, and the other at Bodley Road. No one in the Borough knew who supplied or installed them, but the problem was the spelling: "Llewellyn". This is in the days before "Google-Earth" (and other on-line services) that photographed the country for what now is our best navigation methods: GPS. I asked Borough Council on countless times to get the signs corrected, little knowing what confusion we would see with these new services unaware (or not caring) how to properly spell "Llewellyn". Nothing was done.

On every document I have ever looked at, including Borough maps, deeds, etc., every one spelled "Llewellyn" correctly until these signs appeared. Federal Express and UPS all of a sudden had problems knowing where to deliver packages, all due to the incorrect spelling on these signs. Even the Borough's recently renovated Fire House has "Llewellyn" spelled incorrectly as "Llewellyn". (editor's note; this was done to match the street sign)

Unfortunately, most if not all of the residents who lived here some 75 years ago when the Borough seceded from Aston Township are not here with us to help explain where that leg of road got its name. But from knowing many of them, they knew the proper spelling, and none were happy with the "new" signs, especially the then Mayor John Moyman, with these signs apparently installed by PennDOT, and who refused to ever correct them.

Now, however, most, if not all, GPS services show the proper spelling, and most (although once in a while I still get refused deliver with the proper spelling) delivery services know where "Llewellyn Road" is. [editor's note: Llewellyn (4 L's) is on PennDOT's website and on the Apple application Maps. Llewellyn (3 L's) is on Google Maps, Waze and on the map in the Fire House (on the big TV you can see from the road), there is no consistency]

As we celebrate the Borough's 75th Anniversary as a independent municipality, I am glad that the Borough will officially re-recognize the proper spelling, and we can move on from here!!!!

My thanks to Ms. Gina Ellis for heading this correction process up, and declaring the name is to be "Llewellyn Road" from this point forward.

Patrick J. McFadden, AIA

Proud Resident since April 16, 1975

REAL ID in Pennsylvania

What is REAL ID?

The REAL ID Act is a federal law that affects how states issue driver's licenses and ID cards if they are going to be acceptable for federal purposes, such as boarding a domestic commercial flight, or entering a military installation or federal facility that requires ID.


You DO NOT need a REAL ID to:

- Drive
- Vote
- Access hospitals
- Visit the post office
- Access federal courts
- Apply for or receive federal benefits

Beginning October 1, 2020 (this date is being extended by the Federal Government), Pennsylvanians will need a REAL ID compliant license, identification card or another form of federally acceptable identification (such as a valid passport or military ID) to:

- Board domestic commercial flights
- Enter a military base
- Enter a federal facility that requires federally acceptable identification

Learn more at:
www.PennDOT.gov/REALID



The Summit- History and Grand Opening

On February 12, members of Council and Mayor Wood attended the ribbon cutting and grand opening of The Summit at Glen Mills. This new Independent Living, Personal Care Living and Memory Care facility was seven and half years in the making according to developer John Westrum. In 2012, his company entered into an agreement of sale with the previous owner of the old Crier in the Country site, David Finley. Before that, Mr. Finley had purchased the Crier in the Country with the plans to make it a large event space. Planning Commission, our codes, the Fire Marshal and (then) Borough Council denied the plans he had as submitted due to space and parking constrictions. Mr. Finley was welcome to submit less robust plans to develop the restaurant and acreage, but he did not. The building remained vacant for a number of years and sadly, became an eyesore to the community. With no other restaurateurs interested in purchasing the historic Crier in the Country, and with much of the most historic and valuable aspects of the building having been stripped, there was little interest in the property. The 2+ acres were eventually sold to Westrum Development for what eventually became The Summit. Mr. Westrum thanked Borough Council, Mayor Wood (who was on Council at the time of approval), his architects and builders, the banks that financed the project and The Summit's newest residents. The building is designed like a cruise ship without the water. The head chef came from the Dilworthtown Inn and they are working with local colleges to offer lifelong learning programs. The management team at The Summit welcomes the community- so if you have a needlepoint or knitting guild, you can host meet-ups there; if you are part of a Rotary, you can have meetings there as well. Stop by, give them a call, go for a visit!



Hunting Laws and Regulations in the Borough

We have had a few inquires into the Borough office regarding Hunting Laws and Regulations in the Borough. To more thoroughly answer those questions, our Fire Marshal, Mike Ciocco, provided the following information from The PA Game Commission.

Hunting is permitted in Chester Heights Borough, mostly on private lands. Firearm usage is shotgun only. Bows and Crossbows are permitted. The following excerpt is from the PA Game Commission:

Safety Zones: It is unlawful to hunt for, shoot at, trap, take, chase or disturb wildlife within 150 yards of any occupied residence, camp, industrial or commercial building, farmhouse or farm building, or school or playground without the permission of the occupants. It is unlawful to shoot into a safety zone, even if you are outside of the zone. Driving game, even without a firearm or bow, within a safety zone without permission is unlawful. For comparison, think of a safety zone as about one and a half football fields. Hunting on hospital and institutional grounds, and in cemeteries, also is prohibited. It is unlawful to discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a Game Commission vehicle if its occupants are releasing pheasants. The safety zone for archery hunters statewide, including those using crossbows, is 50 yards. Archery hunters carrying muzzleloaders during any muzzleloader season must abide by the 150-yard safety zone regulation. Around playgrounds, schools, nursery schools or day-care centers, the safety zone remains 150 yards.

New Law Allows Landowners to Mark Properties with Purple Paint

Pennsylvania has joined several other states in adopting a "purple paint law," which provides landowners with an alternative to marking their properties as "no trespassing."



Under the law, landowners may paint purple stripes on trees or posts to mark their properties. The lines must be vertical and at least 8 inches long and 1 inch wide. They must be 3 to 5 feet off the ground, readily visible to a person approaching the property and no more than 100 feet apart. While the law does not specify a certain shade of purple, a number of paint manufacturers offer a product called "No Hunting Purple."

Previously, the only way landowners could post their properties was by posting signs that would deteriorate over time.

The law applies everywhere, except in Philadelphia and Allegheny counties.



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Chester Heights

Volunteer Fire Company No. 1



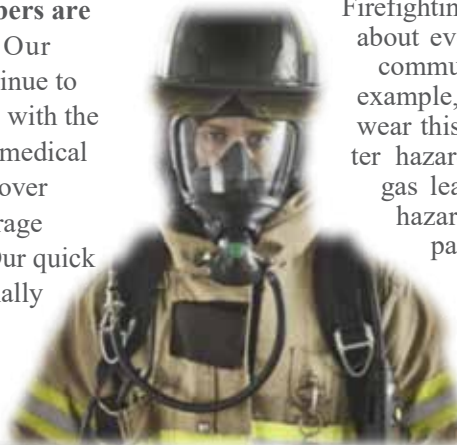
THIS ISSUE

2019 Activity
Grant Funding
New Fire Engine
Ready to Join?

2019 ACTIVITY

Total service call numbers are in for 2019 and we have been busy! Our call numbers over the last 5 years continue to climb reaching **405 total calls in 2019**, with the largest number of calls resulting from medical assists at 170. This is a 4% increase over 2018 and a 14% increase over the average number of calls in the last 10 years. Our quick response allows us to average 5 nationally trained firefighters per call.

GRANT FUNDING



Firefighting is an expensive enterprise. Just about every item we purchase to serve the community comes at a premium; for example, our air-packs. Our firefighters wear this piece of equipment when they enter hazardous environments such as fires, gas leaks, carbon monoxide alarms, and hazardous material incidents. One air-pack with 2 cylinders costs \$6800.

The packs are recertified on an annual basis and are valid for 10 years. This means the units that were purchased 10 years ago are no longer viable. To be an effective company we need 16 air-

packs, totalling \$108,800.

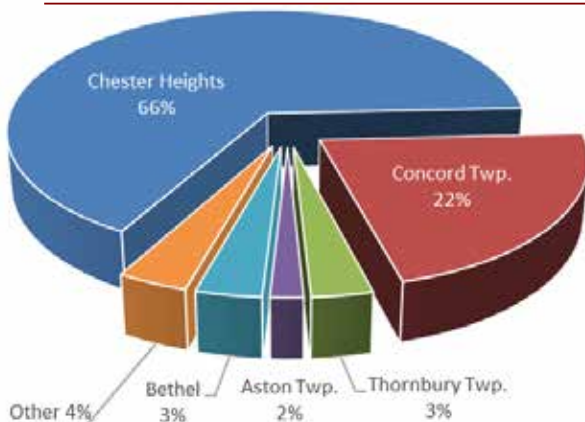
We have been very fortunate to have the support of our Borough Council. The 2016 tax ordinance allowed us to create a plan for the future and stay out of the red. It is important to understand that we do not take that for granted and have been working hard to offset costs for capital purchases by continually applying for grants and looking for cost savings that are available for Volunteer Fire Companies. In 2019 after several years of being denied we were finally awarded a FEMA Grant in the amount of \$103K, that will offset the purchase of the much-needed air masks. Once the masks are delivered and paid for, FEMA will reimburse CHFC \$103K with our part being \$5K.

Every year we also continue to apply for the annual grant with PEMA (Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency) in the amount of \$15K. This grant is specific to offsetting the interest payment on the mortgage for our building, freeing up those funds for operational expenses.

2019 FIRE STATISTICS

- 405** CALLS
- 5** AVERAGE STAFFING PER CALL
- 137** NIGHT CALLS (7PM AND 7AM)
- 268** DAY CALLS (7AM AND 7PM)
- 804** MEMBER HOURS ANSWERING ALARMS
- 1125** TRAINING HOURS (48 NIGHTS)

CALLS BY LOCATION



NEW ENGINE?

The 2016 Chester Heights Fire Company financial plan included the purchase of a new Rescue Engine in 2022. This Rescue Engine was forecasted to cost between \$750K - \$800K.



Fortunately, CHFC was approached with a unique opportunity to reduce the overall cost of the new engine.

The original plan was to wait until 2022, buy the new 2022 Rescue Engine for \$750K & sell our 2008 Rescue for \$150K to offset the purchase price. The total net cost with discounts and interest for this plan is approximately \$626,199.

The new plan is slightly different. A Pennsylvania Fire Company has offered to buy our 2008 Rescue for \$280K; our new engine will cost approximately \$662,500. While we wait for our new engine to be built, CHFC will buy their 1986 Pumper for the short-term for \$5,000. This will net CHFC \$275,000 to be applied toward the purchase of the new Rescue Engine. Taking advantage of this opportunity reduces our total rescue engine cost to \$449,486.

**BUYING THE NEW RESCUE ENGINE IN 2020 VS. 2022
CHFC IS PROJECTED TO SAVE \$176,713.**

	2022	2020	Savings
NEW Rescue Engine Price	\$ 750,000	\$ 662,500	
Additional Equipment	\$ 37,352	\$ 37,352	
Subtotal Rescue Engine Price	\$ 787,352	\$ 699,852	\$ (87,500)
less Revenue on sale of 2008 Rescue	\$ (150,000)	\$ (280,000)	\$ (130,000)
Add'l costs - Repay Loan on 2008 Rescue	\$ -	\$ 34,486	\$ 34,486
Add'l Cost - Purchase of 1986 Pumper (temporary)	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
less Prepayment discount	\$ (11,153)	\$ (9,852)	\$ 1,301
Cost of New Rescue/Pumper Engine	\$ 626,199	\$ 449,486	\$ (176,713)

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Chester Heights Fire Company holds two community events during the fall and winter seasons. The first is our annual Halloween event when we visit local neighborhoods with the Rescue Engines and hand out candy. This year Halloween was especially warm and pleasant and we got to see more neighbors. The second event is our annual Santa visit. We are so grateful that Santa is willing to brave the elements and take the time to visit Chester Heights. The kids & grown-ups love to see him around town, and we enjoy spreading holiday cheer while meeting everyone in non-emergency situations.

This does not happen

WITHOUT our VOLUNTEERS.

This year along with Candy Canes we distributed post cards to encourage volunteering. If you're interested in learning more about becoming a Chester Heights Fire Company Volunteer or know someone who is please contact us. We are always in need of volunteers and would love to speak to you about the opportunities we have.

Samuel Iannucci Sr. President CHFC
SIannucci1207@GMail.com (C) 610-639-5455



- Chester Heights Volunteer Fire Company

Ashley's Restaurant and Bar

The long-anticipated opening of Ashley's Restaurant happened on February 11. We hope you've seen our Facebook posts and received our email regarding the special preview day for Chester Heights residents before they officially opened! We saw many of you that day and we are sure we will see you again at our new local bar and restaurant. We asked the owners of Ashley's to share with us their story so you could get to know them better- here it is:

Bill Moskowitz only knows the restaurant business as he entered into the business when he was thirteen years old. His father bought a pizza parlor in the late 70's and would bring Bill in to work with him. Bill started making pizza and fell in love with the behind the scenes happenings of the restaurant business. During the 1980's, his parents decided to branch out with small restaurants that featured pizza, subs, steak sandwiches, and fried chicken. They added a salad bar which was a huge hit and gradually added more menu items over the years. They went on to build three more restaurants in Delaware that were extremely successful over the years. Bill was right there by his father's side the entire way and decided to make the restaurant business his career of choice graduating from Widener University with a degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management.

As the years went by and Bill continued working in the family business, he developed a very close relationship with the chef of one of the restaurants and they always talked about branching out. His father was getting older and set in his ways but did not have any intentions of retiring. Bill decided that it was time for him to branch out on his own and his chef, Brendan Ngen wanted to be a part of something new and exciting. They started planning and looking for a location.

Bill looked at a few locations, but none seemed to fit what he wanted to do until one of his neighbors told him about the old Hilltop Tavern. He went to look and immediately saw the potential that the aged building had. He was all in! The building went through a massive upgrade of plumbing, electrical, and interior renovations. The kitchen was expanded, and new cooking equipment was brought in. There is still more to do as time goes on, but operations were ready to start in February 2020.

The management team of Ashley's Restaurant is made up of great people with over 100 years of combined restaurant and bar experience. Diana Spatz and Kevin O'Donnell are the two front end managers with extensive knowledge in the bar industry and well as food and beverage. You will see both working the floor to make sure that guests are being taken care of. Chef Brendan Ngen is from Cameroon and is simply amazing in the kitchen. Dwight Weber is the kitchen manager and also worked with Bill, Brendan, and Diana over the years. Last but not least, you will see Bill's family working in the restaurant when they can. His wife is a financial controller and runs the finances of the restaurant but will also work on the floor when needed. Their daughter, Ashley, works for JP Morgan in finance but also stops in often and will chat with guests to make sure everything is going well. Their son, Josh, is an engineering student at Drexel but has been coming home on the weekends to help the family with the restaurant. The Moskowitz's have lived in Garnet Valley for over twenty years and are happy to have a restaurant of their own and look forward to serving the community for years to come.



New Voting Machines in Delaware County

Delaware County Council unanimously voted to purchase the Hart Verity 2.3.4 Voting System in October 2019, following a recommendation by the County's Board of Elections. The system, certified by the PA Department of State, meets the **Governor's mandate for a verifiable paper trail**. It includes plain text which voters can read to verify their vote before casting their ballot.

The new voting machines will be used in the 2020 Primary, as mandated by Governor Wolf.

The County's Board of Elections, Delaware County Council and the County's Executive Director began researching new voting systems in 2017 to identify systems that would meet the new federal and state requirements. In Pennsylvania, every voting system and paper ballot must include plain text that voters can read to verify their choices before casting their ballot. Election officials will also use the plain text to perform pre-election testing and post-election audits and recounts.

Additional demonstrations and trainings will be held around the County to educate residents and train poll workers for the 2020 Primary.

Videos on the Hart Verity 2.3.4 Voting System can be found here: www.delcopa.gov/elections/bureau/index.html

Our Judge of Elections attended one of the early trainings. She says the entire process will be different, but (hopefully) quicker for voters. You will sign in and get handed a paper ballot. Then go to a table and fill in the circles that correlate with your chosen candidates. Once complete, you walk your paper ballot to the scanner and scan it. The screen will indicate what your paper says. You have the opportunity to make changes at this point. If no changes are necessary, you click yes on the screen to cast your vote and you're done! The ballot you filled out is saved in a secure container as a secondary measure of tracking votes. Five voters are permitted to fill out paper ballots at the same time, as opposed to two at a time with the electronic machines. The scan process seems to be quick. This process will be an adjustment for every one of us. If this sounds too complicated or daunting for you, keep reading. PA approved Mail-in voting beginning this year.

continued on next page

New Voting Machines in Delaware County *continued*

ACT 77 MAKES HISTORIC CHANGES TO PA ELECTION CODE

(from votespa.com)

On October 31, 2019, Governor Wolf signed Act 77 of 2019 into law. The Act is an historic election reform bill that makes the most significant improvements to Pennsylvania's elections in more than 80 years. Act 77 allows more convenient and secure voting. Most voters can now vote by mail-in ballot, and voters will have more time to register to vote and to return their absentee or mail-in ballots. In addition, the Act provides \$90 million in funding for new voting systems. There are a number of other improvements, which are summarized below:

FOR VOTERS MAIL-IN VOTING

You may now vote by mail-in ballot, unless you qualify as an absentee voter, in which case you must vote by absentee ballot. If you want to vote by mail you must apply for a mail-in ballot. You do not need to provide a reason or excuse if you want to use a mail-in ballot. The county must receive your application for a mail-in ballot by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the election.

You can return your voted mail-in ballot by mailing it to your county board of elections using the envelope provided, or you can drop it off in person at the board of election's office. Whichever way you choose, the County must receive your voted ballot by 8:00 p.m. on election day in order for it to be counted.

You may also ask to be placed on a permanent mail-in voter list. If you are on this list, you will have a mail-in ballot application mailed to you by the first Monday in February each year. If you complete and return the application, the county will send you ballots in the mail for all the elections that take place that year, as well as for any special election held through the third Monday in February of the next year. For example, if you return your completed mail-in application in February 2020, you will automatically receive a ballot for the April 28, 2020 (**now moved**

to June 2) Primary and the November 3, 2020, General Election, as well as ballots for any special elections held on or before February 15, 2021.

If you are sent a mail-in ballot and the county receives your voted ballot by the deadline (8:00 p.m. on election day), you may not vote at your polling place. Your vote is considered final at that point. However, if you mailed your ballot too late, or you aren't sure whether the county received your voted ballot in time, you may be able to vote a provisional ballot at your polling place. If you were sent a mail-in ballot, but your polling place has no record of having received it, you may vote by provisional ballot. However, if the county does receive your voted mail-in ballot in time, that ballot, not your provisional ballot, will be counted.

Remember, you may always return your mail-in ballot at the county board of election's office by 8:00 p.m. on election day.

Finally, **counties are authorized to begin processing mail-in applications more than 50 days before the election.** Beginning 50 days before the election, counties must begin transmitting mail-in ballots as soon as the ballot is certified and the ballots are available. Counties may await the result of a court proceeding that would affect the content of ballots before delivering mail-in ballots, but in any case, counties must begin to send out mail-in and absentee ballots no later than the second Tuesday before the election.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE

The **deadline to register to vote is now 15 days before an election**, rather than 30 days. If your voter registration application is denied, the deadlines to appeal the decision have also changed.

ABSENTEE BALLOTING

The **deadline for a county to receive a regular civilian absentee ballot is now 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.** Regular civilian absentee ballots received after this time will not be counted unless a Court has extended the deadline.



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If you are sent a regular civilian absentee ballot and the county receives your voted ballot by the deadline (8:00 p.m. on election day), you may not vote at your polling place. Your vote is considered final at that point. However, if you mailed your ballot too late, or you aren't sure whether the county received your voted ballot in time, you may be able to vote a provisional ballot at the polling place. If you were sent a regular civilian absentee ballot, but your polling place has no record the ballot was voted and received, you may vote by provisional ballot. However, if the county does receive your voted ballot in time, that ballot, not your provisional ballot, will be counted. **Remember, you may always return your absentee ballot at the county board of elections office by 8:00 p.m. on election day.**

The process for obtaining an emergency absentee ballot has been simplified. More than one voter may now designate the same person to deliver their ballot. For example, the same hospital employee may deliver ballots for multiple patients.

Counties must now process absentee applications beginning 50 days before the election. Counties may wait for the result of a court proceeding

continued on page 11

Committee Assignments

We are often asked “who handles” what topics within the Borough when residents have a question or an issue. Here is the current list of Committees and their Chairs. Of course, you can always send an email to info@chesterheights.org and Sue will forward your concern to the appropriate Council members and/or appointed officials. All Council members emails are first.last@chesterheights.org. If you message the Facebook page, you get will get a response from the Communications Committee Chair who is the admin.

School District / Education /

Library

Chair: Susan Clarke
members Ginamarie Ellis, Dave Firkser

Finance

Chair: Steve Cocozza
members Sue Timmins, Laura Lim

Fire Company Finance

Chair: Dave Firkser
members Drew Baum, Steve Cocozza

Nominating / Vacancy

Chair: Dave Firkser
member Steve Cocozza

Communications / Public Relations

Chair: Ginamarie Ellis
member Laura Lim

Mayor’s Event Committee

Chair: Fred Wood
members Ginamarie Ellis,
Natalie Anderson

Historical Committee

Chair: Sue Timmins
members Dave Firkser, Fred Wood

Planning / Zoning

Chair: Susan Clarke
member Drew Baum, Dave Firkser

Engineering / Construction / Inspections

Chair: Susan Clarke
member Natalie Anderson

Ordinance / Code Review

Chair: Susan Clarke
member Drew Baum, Dave Firkser

Public Safety

Chair: Drew Baum
member Dave Firkser

Public Safety / Borough Police Protection Sub-Committee

Chair: Drew Baum
members John Ryan Sr., Jack Higgins,
Rich Wood Jr, Philip Block

Borough Property / Parks / Open Space

Chair: Steve Cocozza
members Drew Baum, Laura Lim,
Fred Wood

Highways / Transportation

Chair: Dave Firkser
members Larry Ward

Public Utilities / Trash / Recycle

Chair: Laura Lim: members Natalie
Anderson, Ginamarie Ellis, Fred Wood

New Voting Machines *continued from page 10*

that would affect what’s on the ballots before delivering absentee ballots. In any case, counties must begin, at the latest, to deliver absentee ballots by the second Tuesday before the election.

Finally, if you have a permanent disability, you may ask to be placed on a permanent absentee voter list.

If you are on this list, you will have an absentee ballot application mailed to you by the first Monday in February each year. If you complete and return the application, the county will send you ballots in the mail for all the elections that take place that year, as well as for any special election held through the third Monday in February of the next year. For

example, if you return your completed absentee application in February 2020, you will automatically receive a ballot for the June 2, 2020, Primary and the November 3, 2020, General Election, as well as ballots for any special elections held on or before February 1, 2021.

NO STRAIGHT-PARTY VOTING

You no longer have a shortcut straight-party button to vote for all candidates of one party. However, this change does not prevent you from selecting only candidates from one party. It simply removes the shortcut button option. If you want to vote for all candidates of one party, you will have to select the candidates one at a time.

No Stickers to Vote for Write-in Candidates

You are not allowed to use stickers or paste-on labels for write-in candidates because the ballot-scanning machines cannot read them and may become jammed. The law now says that write-in names may be written or stamped.





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Vice President Steve Coccozza
Pro Tem Ginamarie Ellis
Mayor Fred Wood
Natalie Anderson
Susan Clarke
Dave Firkser
Laura Lim

Planning Commission Members

Chair Chris Leiser
Vice Chair John P. Lesky
Pro Tem Thayer Schroeder
Member David Clarke
Melinda Kerry, Esq.
Mark Carroll
Gregg Homan

Zoning Hearing Board Members

Chair H. Fred Hamel
Vice Chair Cynthia McNichols, Esq.
Member Glenn Mon
Justin Buccilli
Zoning Solicitor Christopher G. Furlong, Esq.
Zoning Officer Richard J. Jensen

Borough Officials

Secretary/Treasurer Susan M. Timmins
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Open Records Officer Megan Killian
Borough Solicitor Gerald C. Montella, Esq.
Specialist Solicitor Peter Rohana, Esq.
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Fire Marshal Michael Ciocco
EMS/Road Master Lawrence F. Ward
Sewer Enforcement Michael Ciocco, P.E., S.E.O.
Vacancy Chair Ellen Luongo
Constable Steve Luongo
Library Representative Greg Chestnut
Animal Control Officer Allen Strickler

Thank You

The Borough would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and recognizes each of them as contributors to our community. Thanks to their advertising support, this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.



75th Anniversary of Our Charter

2020 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of Chester Heights!

The Mayor's Events Committee and the Historical Committee are asking for your help in preparing for this momentous occasion which will be celebrated in the early fall. We know there are many long-time residents who have photos, newspaper clippings, old signs, etcetera that we would love to have the opportunity to scan or borrow to add to the Borough's digital historic library. Please contact Sue Timmins- Borough Secretary and Chair of the Historic Committee for more information or to set up a time to have your documents scanned. We hope to have a nice little collection by June. Please follow our Facebook page at Borough of Chester Heights and sign up to receive our emails to stay informed on the events planned to commemorate our Semisesquicentennial (a fancy way of saying 75th) anniversary.

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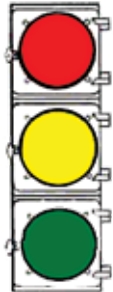
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