

Fall/Winter 2020

# CHESTER HEIGHTS

## BOROUGH BULLETIN

**BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

222 Llewellyn Road • P.O. Box 658 • Chester Heights, PA 19017

610.459.3400 • [www.chesterheights.org](http://www.chesterheights.org)



DELAWARE COUNTY

Visit our website at [www.chesterheights.org](http://www.chesterheights.org)



**Complete Land Development Services**

# G.D. HOUTMAN & Son, Inc.

- CIVIL ENGINEERS
- LAND SURVEYORS
- LAND PLANNERS

**Including:**

Planning, Subdivision  
Site Development, Environmental



139 E. BALTIMORE PIKE • MEDIA, PA 19063  
610-565-6363

# Wawa

**From One Neighbor  
To Another**



©2016 Wawa, Inc.



**Heating Oil**

- Heating & Cooling... Sales & Service
  - Budget Plans • Service Contracts
  - 24 hour Service • Guaranteed Fuel Price Program
- Ennisfuels.com 610-459-2719

## Concordville Town Centre Dental

Comprehensive Dental Services for the Whole Family

Dr. Douglas A. Filidore

Dr. David M. Taylor

Dr. Matthew J. Miller



**610-459-3644**

**www.concordvilledental.com**

Concordville Town Centre  
Routes 1 and 322, Glen Mills, PA



## Powell Drilling & Services, Inc

The Original Calvin E. Powell Drilling Co.

Chester Heights, PA 19017

**610-459-1037**

Water Well  
Irrigation Well  
Geo Thermal Drilling  
Pumps • Tanks  
Water Treatment  
Systems  
Well System Inspections



## Weichert, Realtors®

*"I have been a full time Real Estate professional  
helping many people achieve their goals in  
buying or selling real estate since 1987."*



**Gloriann M. Ellis, GRI, CRS, CSP, ABR**

Associate Broker

Weichert Certified Marketing Spec.

Resident of Chester Heights since 1975

**office 610.459.5500 • fax 610.558.0317**

**cell 610.420.3463**

**Gloriann.m.ellis@gmail.com**

1212 Baltimore Pk. • Chadds Ford, PA 19317



# Fall/Winter 2020 Inside This Issue

Court of Common Pleas.....	3-4
Excerpts from the Initial Organization Meeting of the Borough of Chester Heights.....	5
Old-Fashioned Stamper.....	5
Police in the Borough.....	6
March 31, 1952.....	6
Historical Clippings .....	7
Valleybrook Road.....	8
Excerpts from March 6, 1972 Council Meeting .....	8
Notable Women in the Borough .....	9
It Runs in the Family.....	9
Historical Clippings .....	10
Borough Permits from the 1940's.....	11
Committee Assignments .....	13

## Letter from the Mayor

Neighbors,

September 21, 2020 marks 75 years since the Borough of Chester Heights was incorporated. Our founders petitioned the courts to secede from Aston Township because they thought the taxes were too high. Borough residents still enjoy the lowest municipal taxes in Delaware County.

This issue of the Newsletter is all about the last 75 years. You will see the original petition and the residents who signed it- including my grandfather! You will also see the order from the Court of Common Pleas making us official. Included in this issue are excerpts from meeting minutes throughout the years; Valleybrook Rd and traffic has been a topic often in the last 75 years. We also included a list of families who have served the Borough throughout generations. It's wonderful to see so much continuity in our little borough's young history. We have included a sampling of newspaper articles as well.

In the next year, COVID being considered, we plan on having multiple events for all generations to celebrate our 75th Anniversary. Please pay attention to our website, our Facebook page and sign up to receive our emails to stay up to date on all things Chester Heights.

I hope you enjoy this issue of our newsletter. Happy Anniversary to us!

**\*A non-historical announcement: we will be voting at the Garnet Valley Middle School in November's election. For those residents voting by mail, the nearest ballot drop box will be at The Rachel Kohl Library.**

Enjoy your fall and stay well,

Mayor Fred Wood

PAGE 6M WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 1977

TOWN-TALK

### Letters to the Editor

Editor:  
Since you seem to be interested in the Black Hawk Spring in Middletown Township; thought that you might like to have a copy of a letter written by Mr. Bill Thompson. He is

the Chief of the Turkey Clan of the United Lenape American Indians. This letter was presented to the Middletown Planning Board at their last meeting Dec. 28. At the meeting we were honored by Chief

Thompson and his wife (Gwen Bucks County) both Lenape and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Goyer of Aston. Mr. Goyer is Lenape, and Mr. Goyer is Algonquin.

The United Lenape Band is very interested in Black Hawk Spring since it is very sacred to them, and to this day there people that live in this area still come to the spring for water.

Since the Aug. 24 Planning Commission meeting up till the Dec. 28 meeting, Arters has been present at only the Oct. 26 meeting. At that time Gerald Arters was present and was represented by Harry Dunn. He presented

a modified preliminary plan.

At every meeting since Aug. 24 we (Gwen Black Hawk Committee) have been present, along with many other people that want to keep this spring.

Even though the last meeting was 4 days after Christmas and between New Years Eve, there were about 30 people there. Next meeting is Jan. 25, 8 p.m.

If you would like any other information about the Indians and Black Hawk Spring, please feel free to call or write. I am trying to find out the history of the Lenape that lived at the spring.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Josie Wichek  
Newtown Square

8th Day Moon of the  
Long Shadows  
Dec. 28, 1976

To Those Concerned

Chinese!

I know the Great Spirit shines upon you and guides your footsteps.

I know you will prevent the destruction of the Great and Sacred Spring of Black Hawk. A gift of Koo-Shay-hum-Moo-Kawng. The Great Spirit.

I thank you in the name of the United Lenape Band. We are the eastern band of the Delawareans, and as Chief of the Turkey Clan, I have the honor and privilege to speak for them. For many hundreds of years this Great Spring served our people. It is a sacred place - those who have passed into spirit world - their spirits are still there - for those of us - many, many years ago we had to leave our ancient land. This Great Spring

was a gift of Koo-Shay-hum-Moo-Kawng. The Great Spirit, and the earth, our mother.

Are we to again witness the destruction of another of the Great Spirit's gifts. Will they never rest until they have destroyed the earth, our mother. Is this Great Spring to go the way of the passenger pigeon who used to darken the Great Spirit's sky - yes it probably will, for there are dollars to be made and this is all important to those who worship them most. You people only worship your God once a week, dollars all the time. We thank the Great Spirit each day for the breath of life He has given us and for the privilege of walking upon the earth, our mother another day - the dollar isn't important. You have not held the earth, our mother, in your hands and felt her heart beat, for she is a living thing. You only understand dollars held in your hands.

CONTINUED ON PG. 7

**Shapes & Styles**  
UNISEX HAIR  
DESIGN CENTER  
PERMS —  
COLORING  
MON-SAT  
10am-8pm  
566-6606  
GROUNTSVILLE  
MEDIA, PA.

OUR ANNUAL  
**WINTER  
CLEARANCE  
SALE**  
YOU CAN'T SAVE MORE

**POLAND**  
2 Weeks \$875<sup>00</sup>  
INCLUDES  
AIR TRANSPORTATION,  
HOTELS, SIGHTSEEING,  
TOURS, TIPS,  
TAXES.  
Call  
Today!  
WEIR TRAVEL  
4607 EDMONT AVE.  
PHILADELPHIA DEPARTURE  
JUNE 26 - JULY 10, 1977



Town Talk, Letters to the Editor,  
Wednesday, January 12, 1977

# Court of Common Pleas

## "Petition for incorporation of the Borough of Chester Heights"

IN THE COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS ETC. IN AND FOR DELAWARE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

IN RE: INCORPORATION OF : Misc. Quarter Sessions  
THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER : Docket A-9  
HEIGHTS : Page 192

### PETITION FOR INCORPORATION OF THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS

To the Honorable, the Judges of the above named Court:

The undersigned, being a majority of the freeholders residing within the limits of the proposed "The Borough of Chester Heights", hereby apply to your Honorable Court for incorporation of said borough and respectfully represent:

1. The corporate name of said borough shall be "The Borough of Chester Heights".

2. The particular description of the boundaries of said borough, exhibiting the courses and distances in words at length, is as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the center line of Stony Bank Road, in the boundary line of the Township of Concord, and a corner of the boundary line of the Township of Thornbury; thence by the boundary line of the Township of Thornbury and by the Northwest-erly line of lands of J. G. Machonachy, William F. R. Munnich and Charles A. Dohan, Dec'd., North sixty-four (64) degrees thirty-four (34) minutes East forty-three hundred sixty-six and fifty-six hundredths (4366.36) feet to a point in the center line of Chester Creek; thence down the center line of Chester Creek, following the various courses and distances thereof and

plot showing the boundaries of said proposed borough, together with the courses and distances thereof, submitted, your petitioners pray your Honorable Court that "The Borough of Chester Heights" be incorporated as a body politic no heretofore and forth.

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
Willard E. Schroeder	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
James A. Graft	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23-1943
George W. E. Wright	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
William E. E. Wright	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
C. E. Tucker	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
Charlotte T. Tucker	" " "	June 23, 1943
Guarantee Tolk	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
Thos. O. Bunkley	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
Margaret P. Bunkley	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 23, 1943
Richard D. Reed	As directed by the Petitioner	June 24th 1943
London L. E. Reed		June 24th 1943
Constance Reed	Wm., Pa.	June 24, 1943
David A. Dohan	Durkington, Pa.	June 24 -1943
Ruth C. Williams	Wm., Pa.	June 24 -1943
F. Tracy Wilson	Wm., Pa.	June 24 -1943

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
Don E. Sullivan	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 25, 1943
G. Nelson Sullivan	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 25, 1943
H. J. Monner	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 25, 1943
Eliza E. Monner	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 25, 1943
Thos. C. Williams	" " "	
Wm. Delany Shuman (Dec'd.)	Chester Heights, Pa.	June 26th 43
J. H. Stewart, Pres.	July 7, 1943, Sec'y. Res. Pa.	June 26, 1943
Herbert Plank	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 7 -1943
George Wilson	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 7 -1943
Mr. F. A. Munnich	Wm. Mills, Pa.	July 7, 1943
James S. Monner	Wm. Mills, Pa.	July 7 -1943
Ruth S. Monner	Wm. Mills, Pa.	July 7, 1943
Margaret A. Bunker	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 7, 1943
Mr. E. Miller	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 7, 1943
Arthur A. Bunker	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 8, 1943
John Bunker	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 8 1943
Chester Heights Square Club	William E. Schroeder Treasurer	July 9, 1943

NAME	ADDRESS	DATE
Wm. E. L. Harvey	Sherrinwood, Pa.	July 9 - 1943
E. G. Perry	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 9 1943
Wm. Chest Baysital (Dec'd.)	J. H. Oakley, Treas.	July 9, 1943
William L. Reed	Wm., Pa.	July 10 1943
Mrs. Mary Bradley	Chester Heights, Pa.	July 10th - 1943
W. H. Hollingsworth	Hickington Delaware Route 46	July 14 1943
John A. Thomas	Wm. Pa. Pa.	July 24- 1943
Tom Thomas	Wm. Pa. Pa.	July 24- 1943
Wm. Chest Baysital (Dec'd.)	Eliza S. Oakley, Res.	July 24, 1943
Philadelphia Camp Meeting and Devotional Association of The Reformed Episcopal Church (Dec'd.)		
John T. Peckham President	Attorney Herbert S. Smallie Sec'y. Treas.	
Donald E. Hamilton	Wm., Pa.	July 24, 1943
Ruth E. Hamilton	Wm. Pa.	July 24 1943

Petition for incorporation of the  
Borough of Chester Heights



Walter Schraeder petition  
dated August 5, 1945

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: 188  
County of Delaware

Walter E. Schrader, being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is one of the petitioners within named; that the signatures of the petitioners are the signatures of the persons represented thereby; that your deponent and the other petitioners are a majority of the freeholders residing within the limits of the proposed "The Borough of Chester Heights"; that the signatures to said Petition were affixed thereto on the dates stated, and that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition are true and correct.

Sworn to and subscribed:  
before me this 6th day:  
of August, A. D., 1945 :

Theodore O. Buckley  
Notary Public

(SEAL) THEODORE O. BUCKLEY  
Chester Heights, Pa.  
Notary Public  
My Commission Expires February 5, 1949  
Registered at Media Del. Co. Pa.

Walter E. Schrader

IN THE COURT OF QUARTER SESSIONS ETC. IN AND FOR DELAWARE  
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

IN RE: INCORPORATION OF

THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER  
HEIGHTS

: Misc. Quarter Sessions  
: Docket A-9  
: Page 192

Decree from  
September 21, 1945

DECREE OF INCORPORATION

AND NOW, September 21, A. D., 1945, on motion of Donald H. Hamilton, Esq., Solicitor for the petitioners, and upon due consideration of the Petition filed, after a full investigation of the case presented by the petition to incorporate "The Borough of Chester Heights", the filing of said petition and the hearing thereon having been advertised according to law and no exceptions having been filed to the said petition, the Court does find that the conditions prescribed by law have been complied with and believes it is expedient to grant the prayer of the applicants, does grant the same and decrees that "The Borough of Chester Heights" be incorporated into a Borough, in conformity to the prayer of the petitioners; that the corporate style and title thereof shall be "The Borough of Chester Heights"; that the boundaries thereof shall be as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the center line of Stony Bank Road, in the boundary line of the Township of Concord, and a corner of the boundary line of the Township of Thornbury, thence by the boundary line of the Township of Thornbury and by the Northwesterly line of lands of J. G. Macdonald, William F. R. Munnich and Charles A. Dohan, Dec'd., North sixty-four (64) degrees thirty-four (34) minutes East forty-three hundred sixty-six and

## Excerpts from the Initial Organization Meeting of the Borough of Chester Heights Held January 7, 1946 at 8 O'clock PM at the Rose Hill School.

Present were the Burgess, Walter Schrader and Councilmen Arthur Stromgren, J. Taney Wilcox, H. Herbert Breneman, Lohr Kerns and E. Clay Krebs. Keller Little was not present.

Father Sylvester McCarthy (Rector of St. Thomas the Apostle and petition signer) gave the following invocation:

*We pray the God of wisdom and justice thru whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted and judgment decreed, assist with thy holy spirit of counsel and fortitude the officers of this new borough that their administration may be conducted in righteousness and eminently useful to people of whom they preside. Let the light of thy divine wisdom direct the deliberation of our council and shine forth in all the proceedings and regulations framed for our guidance, so that everything may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of natural happiness, the increase of industry and useful knowledge and may guarantee to us the blessings of equal liberty. Amen*

Mr. Wilcox was nominated as President of Council for a term of one year.

He took the chair and stated that The Borough of Chester Heights had been incorporated by Decree of the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, dated September 21, 1945.

He then gave the following historical sketch of the Borough:

### *Quotations from Ashmead's History of Delaware County, 1884.*

*"On the evening of Sept. 11, 1777, a number of the stragglers from the defeated American Army, hungry, demoralized and exhausted in their flight from the field at Brandywine, collected in the neighborhood of Logtown, where they passed the night, sleeping the outbuildings and open fields. The next morning, most of them rejoined their commands."*

*"The Original Township of Aston, which at upper end conformed to the straight east and west line dividing that township, Concord and Middletown from Thornbury and Edgmont remained undisturbed until 1842, when on July 20th of that year the Assembly enacted a law changing the line of Aston so that part of the old township lying above Stony Bank school house- a direct line drawn thence eastward from Concord Township line to Chester Creek- was annexed to Thornbury Township. Again, in 1870, an effort was made by the citizens of the upper end of Aston to divide the present township, the difficulty growing out of the alleged disproportion of the number of schools and the unequal division of taxes for road purposes. A petition was presented to the court, but at the election held, under order of the court, October 18th of that year, the project was defeated at the polls."*

The successful secession of the Borough of Chester Heights from Aston happened in 1945 with a total of 1505 acres.



### Old-Fashioned Stamper

Official documents for the borough are stamped with the seal of the Borough of Chester Heights. 75 years after it was first used, Borough Secretary Sue Timmins still uses the original stamper for official documents.

## Police in the Borough

Chester Heights had its own Police force in the very beginning with uniforms and badges costing a total of \$215. In a letter mailed October 8, 1952 to the residents of the Borough on borough letterhead:

***"TO THE CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF  
CHESTER HEIGHTS***

*Borough Council is confronted with the problem of Police Protection. Our Chief of Police has tendered his resignation. At present time our two Policemen receive Fifty Dollars per month each, plus Ten Cents per mile for Auto Expense. The Borough furnishes Uniforms and equipment.*

*Our Chief of Police is asking for One Hundred Dollars per month and in order to comply with this request Borough Taxes will have to be increased. With our present Borough Police system we receive little to no State Police protection. If we have no Borough Police, we would have the protection of the State Police.*

*Borough Council thought this matter too important to decide at once, therefore we are asking the Citizens of the Borough to voice their opinion by answering the following questions and returning, as soon as possible, to the Borough Secretary.*

***DO YOU FAVOR BOROUGH POLICE PROTECTION?***

***DO YOU FAVOR STATE POLICE PROTECTION?"***

WALTER E. SCHWABER  
BOROUGH  
CLERK  
H. DEWEY BRENNAN  
PRES. OF BOROUGH

ANNA D. BISHOP  
TREASURER  
DONALD H. HANSEN  
BOROUGH  
SECRETARY

**THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
DELAWARE COUNTY  
CHESTER HEIGHTS, PA.**

MEETING FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
MILTON E. JONES  
BOROUGH  
CLERK

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS

Borough Council is confronted with the problem of Police Protection. Our Chief of Police has tendered his resignation. At the present time our two Policemen receive Fifty Dollars per month each, plus Ten Cents per mile for Auto Expense. The Borough furnishes Uniforms and equipment.

Our Chief of Police is asking for One Hundred Dollars per month and in order to comply with this request Borough Taxes will have to be increased. With our present Borough Police system we receive little to no State Police protection. If we have no Borough Police we would have the protection of the State Police.

Borough Council thought this matter too important to decide at once, therefore we are asking the Citizens of the Borough to voice their opinion by answering the following questions and returning, as soon as possible, to the Borough Secretary.

DO YOU FAVOR BOROUGH POLICE PROTECTION?	SECTION 1	39
DO YOU FAVOR STATE POLICE PROTECTION?	SECTION 2	64
no opinion		2
total returns		105

150 4/11/52  
Mailed 6/17/52

In the 70th Borough Council meeting on Dec 1, 1952, the results of the Police Questionnaire were discussed. 250 were sent out. 105 were returned with the following results:

***In favor of Borough police protection 39***

***In favor of State Police Protection 64***

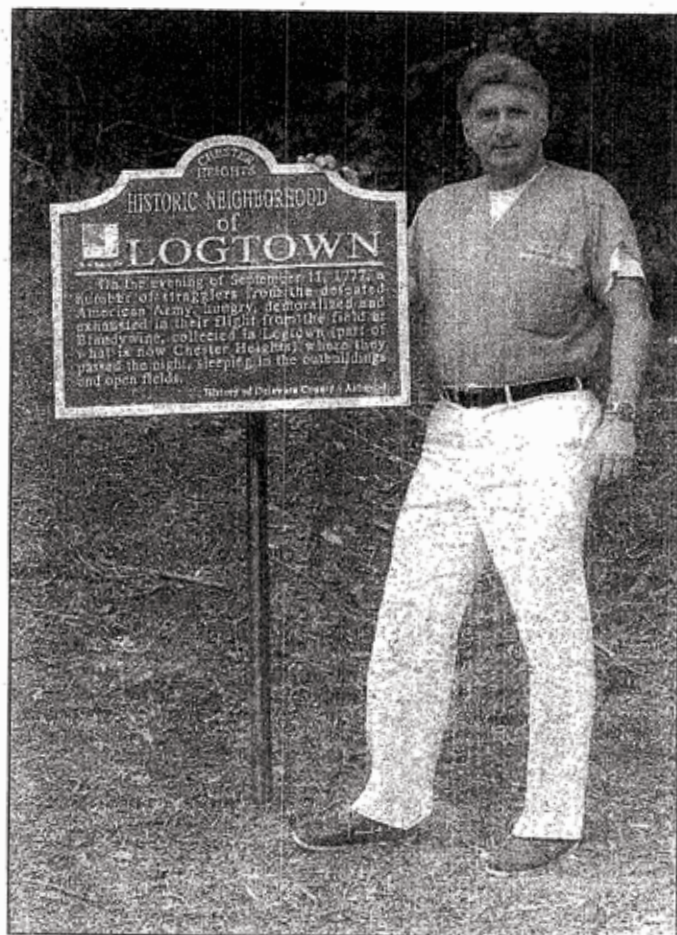
***No opinion 2***

***"Therefore, as a result of this poll, a motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved, that the Borough Police be abolished as of December 31, 1952"***

### March 31, 1952

Mr. Grahme Wood presented a report on the progress of the first meeting on the revision of the zoning ordinance.





Times staff photo by ERIC HARTLINE  
Dr. Ron Ellis stands by new sign recognizing the role that Logtown, now known as Chester Heights, played in the Revolutionary War's Battle of Brandywine.

## History lesson

### Chester Heights neighbors mark Revolutionary role town played

By LORETTA RODGERS  
Times Correspondent

**CHESTER HEIGHTS** — Community spirit is alive and well on Logtown Road.

Residents recently erected a historical sign commemorating Revolutionary War soldiers who rested in Logtown following the Battle of Brandywine.

The blue-and-white cast aluminum sign stands prominently at the entrance to Logtown Road on property donated by residents Joe and Linda Ferroni. The Ferronis also signed a perpetual easement ensuring that if the property is sold, the sign will never be removed.

The neighborhood effort was spearheaded by Dr. Ron Ellis, 49, an emergency room physician who became interested in the project in 1993. According to Ellis, a small sign was originally erected in 1976 at the corner of Route 1 and Valleybrook Road in observance of America's Bicentennial, but was displaced when the roads were widened.

Ellis, a 20-year Chester Heights resident, discussed the replacement of the sign with his neighbors, who thought the idea was "terrific." He consulted Delaware County Councilman Tom Killion, who gave expert advice relating to the requirements of the local sign ordinance.

The first request on behalf of the Logtown Road residents was proposed to Chester Heights Council on Dec. 6, 1993.

Highways Chairman Louis J. Gagliardi Jr. was the liaison to Borough Council, presenting all suggestions and changes to the project. After years of meetings and various prototypes, the final design was selected.

Ellis did extensive research into the history of Logtown and through the help of the Internet, found an important document that provided vital information.

"While researching the project I located a letter of correspondence from Gen. George Washington to the Continental Congress," said Ellis. "The letter that originated from Washington's camp in Chester included an apology for the loss at Brandywine."

Research showed that after the Brandywine retreat, the main body of Washington's Army arrived in Chester, but a few stragglers spent the night taking refuge and resting in the log houses and buildings in the area that is now known as Logtown.

Ellis said the success of the project can be attributed to the cooperation, financial contributions, and in some cases, professional expertise of his Logtown Road neighbors.

The \$1,200 price tag of the sign, as well as property cleanup costs, were paid in full by the residents of Logtown Road.

"This was a group effort," Ellis said with a smile. "Everyone was in agreement that we would move forward to reach this goal. The outstanding support of every person on this street made this happen. We are all proud of the sign and, of course, proud of the role Logtown played in history."

“

*The outstanding support of every person on this street made this happen.*

RON ELLIS,  
Logtown Road resident

”

## Neighbors Oppose Chester Heights Retirement Home

By Kenn Stark

Even though a grassroots protest was technically being brought before the wrong municipal body, Aug. 4, Chester Heights Council members wanted to hear comments from Darlington Woods neighbors in opposition to a proposed 180-unit retirement complex.

Darlington LLC is the developer that is hoping to build the elderly housing facility and related enterprises on roughly 5 acres of an 11-acre parcel on the west side of Baltimore Pike, just north of the

Road.

Seeking a special exception for the R-1 zoned property, the applicant went before the borough's Zoning Hearing Board recently, but the session was continued to Aug. 19 (7 p.m. at municipal building/firehouse on Llewellyn Road).

Council President Michael Pierce welcomed commentary from concerned citizens, but advised them to also share their opinions with the Zoning Board at the upcoming hearing continuation.

"At this stage of the game, (council) does not take any po-

the zoning hearing board," Pierce explained, comparing the application process to being in the first inning of a nine-inning baseball game.

A wide range of concerns were raised by the project's neighbors, including housing density, septic disposal, increased traffic and impact on the neighborhood's bucolic character.

Some protesters feel the developer is not making enough effort to be a good neighbor, as a land development plan presentation has never been offered as a courtesy to the

One resident labeled the institutional designation of the proposed facility, which would include a bank, beauty salon, convenience store, and sewage treatment plant, as "a facade for an apartment complex."

Another neighbor suggested that a bog turtle study was

needed on the property's extensive wetlands.

The notion of the borough buying the site to create a new public park was suggested by one resident. It was noted that the price of the lot would be greater than the \$300,000 reportedly paid by the developer.

AUG. 13, 2008



# Valleybrook Road

## Chester Heights Seeks Road Recovery

by Ellis Bishop

In a vigorous attempt to maintain safety and noise standards, Chester Heights Councilmen examined a recent communication from District Highway Engineer Joseph Synkonis, and directed Borough Secretary Herbert Breneman to press for action. Referring to Valley Brook Road (State Highway 261,) Synkonis estimated the Borough would pay \$1,200 per mile annually for maintenance if it recovered the road

from the State.

Prompting the Borough's action is massive truck traffic on the 2 1/2 mile stretch of rolling, hilly road which is within the Borough borders. Action to remand the highway to the local governing body would depend on affirmative action by Heights' neighbors, Concord and Bethel, but it is believed they, too, are plagued by excessive speeding, congestion and noise.

In a related move, Council voted to take steps, with the aid of property owners, to broaden the sight lines at the intersection of 261 and Wawa Road. It is expected the State will bear costs rounding off corners on

Wawa Road.

Edouard Houtman, Chairman of the Planning Commission, reported his group's ideas regarding the Walnut Hills Planned Retirement Community. The commission recommended Council consider favorably Fidelity Bond & Mortgage's construction of 535 units, with particular attention to enlarged roadways and parking space. Approval of construction, which is expected to begin within six months - after thorough public discussion - will be given in stages, as units are completed.

Following a month's study by Councilmen, a resolution was adopted to "participate with other governments in the Delaware Valley Region in a joint planning process to develop and implement a plan resulting in a coordinated waste treatment system for the area."

*Town Talk,  
May 14, 1975*

## In a Resolution dated 10/7/1946,

"Borough Council desires to limit the speed on State Highway 23026 [a portion of Valleybrook rd.]..... NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the speed on State Highway 23026 shall be and is hereby limited to 35 miles per hour."

## Excerpt from Council minutes Nov 7, 1955

"Burgess Little reported he had received further complaints on speeding trucks thru the Borough and he would request the State Police to check on this, especially during school hours."

## September 5, 1972

"Mayor's report: The Mayor reported many complaints of speeding by stone trucks on Valleybrook Road and pointed out the recent accident at the intersection of Valleybrook and Llewellyn Rds. Action- The Mayor agreed to contact the State Police in order to obtain better enforcement of the 35 mph speed limit on this road. Various other measures to correct the hazardous conditions at this intersection were discussed. The Secretary was directed to write the District Traffic Engineer on the possibility of installing a 3-way STOP at the intersection."

**The Sandwich  
Gallery**

203 W STATE ST., LOG-3433  
2 Ft. HOAGIES

**BEAUTY SHOPPE**  
FOR EASY CARE WITH NEW  
SPRING STYLES

## Excerpts from March 6, 1972 Council Meeting

Excerpts from March 6, 1972 Council Meeting held at the Fire House regarding Highway Safety

- Mr. Wilcox asked if anything could be done about the weeds growing along Wawa Rd
- Wawa Food Markets asked the Highway Department about the traffic situation at the entrance to their office. They were advised to post warning signs on Rt. 1
- A letter was written to the electric company re the urgency in installing flashing warning signals at the entrance to St. Thomas the Apostle

## Notable Women in the Borough

First female member of Council- Paula Bell, served late 80's through late 90's

First female Mayor- Stacey Smith served 2018 until her death in 2020

## It Runs in the Family...

Here are inter-generational family members who have served the Borough in some capacity since our founding and are still living or serving here:

### Wood Family

Grahme Wood Jr. (Council), Richard Wood Jr. (Council), Richard Wood III (Police Sub-committee), Jay Townsend (Planning Commission, Building Inspector), Gilliat Schroeder (Board of Health), Margaret Wood Schroeder (Tax assessment committee), Frederic Schroeder Sr. (Code Enforcement Officer) Thayer Schroeder (Planning Commission), Fred Wood (Council and current Mayor).

To note: In 1952 Grahame Wood Jr. served on the Budget Committee. In 2020, his son, Mayor Fred Wood, is the Chair of the Finance/Budget Committee.

### Ward Family

Samuel B. Ward Jr (Council) was also Fire Chief for 28 years.

Lawrence B. Ward is a lifetime Fire Company Member and served as a Fire Chief for 15 years (Still Active). Larry served on Borough Council for 12 years and is our current Emergency Management Coordinator and Roadmaster

The entire Ward Family served or serves the Fire Company in many vital roles to this day.

### Houtmann

Edouard Houtmann was our engineer at the very beginning. There have been a few other firms in between and Matt Houtmann, Edouard's son, with GD Houtman and Sons is our current engineer.

### Kerns

Mother, Sadie (Board of Health), son Lohr jr (Council), granddaughter Ellen is current vacancy chair.

### Tucker

John Tucker was a Councilperson, his wife, Carol, was treasurer for a time and his daughter, Anne, served on Council.

### Leiser

Fred was Mayor from 1964 until 1970. His son, Chris Leiser, has served on Planning Commission for almost 30 years and is the current President of Planning Commission.

### Ellis

Ronald Ellis, Sr (Deputy Sign Code Enforcement), wife, Gloriann is our current Judge of Elections and daughter, Ginamarie is on Council.

## Chester Heights bails out runoff victim

By KENN STARK  
Times Correspondent

**CHESTER HEIGHTS** — Virginia Taylor is still afraid of rainstorms, but not because of the occasional clap of thunder. Her historic Ivy Mill Road home is under assault from stormwater runoff.

At least Taylor now has the comfort of knowing that the Borough of Chester Heights is ultimately going to throw her a lifeline and pay to fix the problem.

Taylor came before borough council for a third time Feb. 1 to elicit the promise of help.

The council vote to cover the cost of a swale repair project was not unanimous, with the motion passing by a 5-1-1 tally.

Councilwoman Elizabeth Laird abstained from the vote, since her Heather

Lane home is one of the properties directly involved.

Councilman Art McClaskey cast the lone vote in dissent. He later explained that he believed the borough had no fiscal responsibility and should not intercede in a private property matter.

The legal complexities of this case gave other council members reason to pause before spending public funds, as well.

The runoff that is literally carving a path to Taylor's front door primarily emanates from state-owned Valleybrook Road and borough-owned Heather Lane. The swale that was built 32 years ago to redirect the outfall from a road drainage pipe is 1,000 feet long and crosses several Heather Lane backyards, making responsibility for the swale a legal labyrinth.

To give Taylor the help she desperately needs, the borough will re-establish the swale, and will maintain it for "the indefinite future." The chosen course of action is the most expedient solution to a problem that could have taken years to resolve in court.

"Because there are issues and interpretations, council is going to try to take the high road, at least for this particular circumstance and for this particular easement," said council President Michael Pierce.

The borough will absorb the \$6,700 cost to re-establish the length of the 20-foot-wide swale to a depth of two feet. Long-term maintenance will involve the periodic removal of debris that might disrupt the natural flow of the drainage facility.

According to borough Engineer Matt Houtman, excavation of the swale could be done as early as April, depending on weather and ground conditions. Some stop-gap measures will be employed to "shore up" the swale over the winter, to give Taylor immediate relief from ditch-digging duty when it rains, Houtman noted.

"We'll do it as quickly as we can, under conditions that will not tear up everybody's yard," Houtman said of the pending excavation.

Taylor's historic springhouse home was once part of a large estate that was a land grant from William Penn. The 300-year-old springhouse was intentionally built at the lowest point in a hollow to facilitate its original purpose of providing fresh water and cold storage year round.



# Townhouse development woes aired at Chester Heights meeting

**CHESTER HEIGHTS** — Problems with Valleybrook Village, a townhouse development on Llewellyn Road, dominated borough council meeting this week.

A letter was read from John J. Stamm complaining of erosion and flooding of his property caused by water run-off from the adjacent development. He claimed a dirt embankment

surrounding the sedimentation basin and drainage pipe from the swimming pool actually encroached on his property.

Among other complaints, Stamm said that trucks were using one corner of his land, that the sewer plant was noisy and that the contractor was using Stamm's Property as a dump area.

James E. Miller, chairman of council's new construction committee, said a survey had been made of the disputed property line. "From all indications there is encroachment," Miller said, adding that the developer, Benson and Benson, has agreed to regrade and eliminate the problems. Arrangements were made for Stamm to meet with a representative of Benson and Benson to iron out their differences.

Three council members, Edouard N. Houtmann, John S. McManus and Miller will also attend the meeting.

Council discussed eleven items in the Valleybrook Village development which were either incomplete or in violation of the agreement. At the suggestion of Mayor John J. McManus, council members voted to notify Benson and Benson that

if these conditions are not corrected by Feb. 1 no further certificates of occupancy will be issued.

Council members discussed the proposed abandonment of Valleybrook Road (Route 261) as a state road and expressed concern over Aston's apparent opposition to the proposal. At this point Concord and Bethel have both unofficially indicated their approval of the idea of taking over portions of the road.

acquisition estimated \$2.5 million.

"It's a fine idea," McManus said. "We need more mass transportation and if the line is purchased by SEPTA this will prevent the right-of-way from reverting to the original owners."

In other matters, council voted to install a street light at a hazardous bend on Llewellyn Road and to request the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to clean out the and repair the

## Supervisors face fee for meeting

**CONCORD**—The township supervisors may have to find a new meeting place if they don't agree to paying rent on their

installs a transmission line through the township. That would put the line parallel to another line in Clayton Park.

## Town Talk 1/15/75 r Heights Gunfire Subsides

LIS BISHOP

action by Supervisors, e and ran- has prac- in the Lenni At their eting, fellow warmly s Miller for man like of the mounted at December 9 a resulted in tion of an rmitting the m Club to use a rifle range. thORIZED use o extended area by non- and to the police to ap- d prosecute

unanimously awarded Borough Secretary-Treasurer Herbert Breneman in recognition of his excellent performance and increasing work load. Among responsibilities assigned to Breneman at the meeting were the forwarding of resolutions to the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs endorsing continued Federal and State revenue sharing, and notifying the Delaware County Commissioners to act as Federal agents in receiving Federal funds under the Housing and Community Development Act. It was understood that the County has been slated for nearly 7 million dollars over three years, should it be made agent for the 49 municipalities of the County.

Re-appointments included L. E. Kerns, Jr., as Fire Marshal and Margaret K. Willcox to the Zoning Hearing Board. It was voted to pay \$5000. immediately to the Chester Heights Fire Company as part of the budgeted amount of \$8800

Considerable bitterness was shown as Mrs. Emerson Gatchell demanded that Council provide relief for flooding conditions on her Ivy Lane property. Because tests and studies of the situation are currently in process, Council deferred action for a month, although members were sympathetic to the resident's appeal.

For 1975, Council meetings will take place at 8:00 p.m. the first Monday of each month, except that in September when the date will be Tuesday, the 2nd.

## Signal Contract Despite Objection

by Kenn Stark  
Town Talk Reporter

Chester Heights Borough Council voted 4-2 last week to award the contract for a new traffic signal at Valleybrook and Smithbridge Rds. The two dissenting council members warned that a tax increase could result from approving expenditures that exceed the borough's budget.

Bids received last month for the installation of the light and associated road improvements to the intersection were ultimately rejected, since the low bid from Road-Con, Inc. of West Chester was nearly \$342,000. The high bid more than doubled the anticipated \$250,000 cost of the project.

After Road-Con found that less excavation would be needed to create new turn lanes at the intersection, the construction firm was able to drop their price to

\$298,000. The revised bid was lower than the original, but still considerably over budget.

Council members agreed that accepting a bid that exceeded the budgeted amount for the project would have an impact during the next fiscal year, and could lead to the first increase in borough taxes in 40 years. The borough's reserve fund will be utilized to cover the budget shortfall this year, but that practice cannot be sustained without consequence, Councilman Larry Ward noted.

Ward and fellow Councilman Art McClaskey voted against approval of the new bid from Road-Con, both citing the higher-than-expected cost and potential cost overruns. Both complained about the absence of state grants to help finance the signal.

"Senator Pileggi has dropped numerous large amounts of money in Concord Township for traffic

lights, yet we're not dime. It concerns important an intersection noticed representatives," "Down the road, us to have a ti added.

It was later cla ough has not y ficials for gar although fun planned.

Delaying next year is ternative to terson and new signal by Penn ately nee the heavily-used m said.

"I will not place a value on human life," McIntosh stated. "This light is long overdue. The

cars come down Valleybrook Rd. way too fast, and we need this light to slow them down and make it safe."

According to Patterson, the installation and road improvements should take no more than six weeks to complete, once started. Exactly when





## Borough Permits from the 1940's

**A.**  
BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
PERMIT  
29  
Date May 19 - 1948  
To Knox, Sanders Co.  
Location of property  
East side of Rte 261 south of Rte 1  
Owners Name Bell Telephone Co.  
Contractor Knox, Sanders Co.  
Cost of work \$ 10,000 Fee \$ 20.00  
Secretary's Copy

**B.**  
BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
PERMIT  
25  
Date Mar 18 - 1948  
To David Wood  
Location of property  
Northside of Rt. 261 at Logtown  
Owners Name David Wood  
Contractor James D. Townsend  
Cost of work \$ 20650.00 Fee \$ 42.00  
Secretary's Copy  
Build addition to stone house.

**C.**  
BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
PERMIT  
47  
Date July 2 - 1949  
To Harvey P. Martin  
Location of property  
Chester Heights Store property  
Owners Name Thodore Bushley  
Contractor Harvey P. Martin  
Cost of work \$ 3400.00 Fee \$ 8.00  
Secretary's Copy  
Install Plumbing and Heating in apartment over garage

**D.**  
BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
PERMIT  
48  
Date Aug 5 - 1949  
To Miss Ethel H. Chubb  
Location of property  
Old Telephone Office on Rte 261  
Owners Name Miss Ethel H. Chubb  
Contractor James D. Townsend  
Cost of work \$ 651.00 Fee \$ 2.00  
Secretary's Copy

**E.**  
BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
PERMIT  
10  
Date June 7, 1947  
To David Dohan  
Location of property  
Off Darlington Road.  
Owners Name David Dohan  
Contractor James D. Townsend  
Cost of work \$ 995.00 Fee \$ 2.00  
Secretary's Copy  
addition to house.

A. Bell Telephone, May 19 - This building is still owned by the telephone company, which is Verizon today. This is the building next to Ashley's.

B. David Wood - this the Logtown Farm across from Madison apartments.

C. Chester Heights Store Property - The apartment referred to is still an apartment. The garage referred to is our Chester Heights Post Office

D. Old telephone office - this is the home of former Mayor Stacey Smith, the red brick house across from St. Thomas' driveway. It used to be a Bell Telephone Business Office.

E. Dohan - This is the addition to the house of what is now the Hammanassett Bed and Breakfast

Historical Structure Preservation,  
December 6, 1971

THE BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
DELAWARE COUNTY  
CHESTER HEIGHTS, PA. 19017  
MEETING FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH  
December 6, 1971  
BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CHESTER HEIGHTS BOROUGH COUNCIL THAT THE FOLLOWING STRUCTURES ARE OF HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE TO THE BOROUGH AND SHOULD BE PRESERVED WITH THEIR SETTING FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE CITIZENS OF THIS AREA:  
Residences known as Forge Hill & Little Forge Hill, owned by D. Wood, near Route 1 & Eastern Borough Limit.  
Residence owned by D. Hamilton, adjoining the above mentioned property.  
Residence known as Creek Farm, last known owner I. Starkey, Route 1, east of Darlington Road.  
Residence known as Hammanassett, owned by E. Dohan, Route 1 & Darlington Road.  
Residence known as Hill of Skye, owned by A & A Dickson, Route 1, near Route 261.  
Residence known as Walnut Hill House, owned by S. Levin & W. Kraft, Route 1, near Stoney Bank Road.  
Residence known as Logtown Farm, owned by D. Wood, Route 261, between Route 1 and Wawa Road.  
Residence & Restaurant known as Fox Crest, owned by Deversaux, Route 1, near Western Borough Limit.  
Residence known as Logtown House, owned by E. Hobough, Route 261, between Route 1 & Ivy Lane.  
Residence known as The Malster's, owned by W. Thompson, Route 261 and Wawa Road.  
Church known as St. Thomas The Apostle and Cemetery, Route 261, near Ivy Mills Road.  
Residence owned by J. Tucker, Route 261, between St. Thomas and the Railroad.  
Residence known as Sprucehaven Farm, owned by J. DeCampi, Route 261 between Ivy Mills Road and the Railroad.  
Residence owned by H. Breneman, Route 261 at the Southeastern Borough Limit.  
Residence owned by J. Stömm, Bodley Road.  
Residence and school owned by W. Fager, Llewellyn Road and Lenni Road.  
Residence known as Stonehaven, owned by G. Pincin, Lenni Road at New Road.  
Residence owned by A. Martin, Lenni Road, near creek.  
Residence owned by C. Powell, Route 261.  
Residence owned by Mrs. Henry Geigle, Lenni Road.





# S.B.CONRAD, INC.

***Quality Construction ... On Time ... On Budget***

**GENERAL CONTRACTOR  
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT**

**Commercial  
& Residential**

19 Smithbridge Road  
P.O. Box 251  
Chester Heights, PA 19017  
[www.sbconrad.com](http://www.sbconrad.com)

(610) 459-5010  
Fax (610) 459-3014  
[info@sbconrad.com](mailto:info@sbconrad.com)

 Member of  
International  
Council of  
Shopping Centers



# BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS

## Contact Directory

222 Llewellyn Road • P.O. Box 658 • Chester Heights, PA 19017  
610-459-3400 • [info@chesterheights.org](mailto:info@chesterheights.org) • [www.chesterheights.org](http://www.chesterheights.org)

### Borough Officials 2020

#### Members of Council

**President** Drew Baum  
**Vice President** Ginamarie Ellis  
**Mayor** Fred Wood  
Bob Adams  
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  
**Recording Secretary** Darlene Kurten  
**Open Records Officer** Megan Killian  
**Borough Solicitor** Gerald C. Montella, Esq.  
**Specialist Solicitor** Peter Rohana, Esq.  
**Tax Collector** Maryann D. Furlong  
**Code Officials**  
**Building Inspector** Richard J. Jensen  
**Borough Engineer** G. D. Houtman & Sons, Inc.  
Matthew Houtmann, P.E.  
**Alternate Engineer** Michael Ciocco, P.E., S.E.O  
**Sewer Enforcement** Michael Ciocco, P.E., S.E.O  
**Fire Chief** Sam Iannucci, Jr.  
**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.





# Honey, Fix It. Inc.<sup>®</sup>

We Fix What Your Honey Doesn't!



~ Kitchen and Bath Remodels ~

~ Basement ~ Attic ~ Doors & Windows ~

~ Decks ~ Patios ~ Tile-Work ~

~ Hardwood Floor ~ Drywall ~

*Certified Women Owned Business Enterprise*



277 W. Baltimore Pike, Media, PA 19063  
610-361-0484 ~ ta@honeyfixit.com ~ www.honeyfixit.com

## ASHLEY'S

Restaurant & Bar

68 Baltimore Pike Glen Mills, PA 19342

**610-572-2323**

ashleysrandb.com

Check us out on Facebook & Instagram!



(610) 459-7727

Contact@fergusonmccann.com

QUALITY SINCE  
1933

## FERGUSON & McCANN, Inc.

### MECHANICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL CONTRACTORS

Underground Tanks and Service Station Equipment

Installations • Removals • Testing • Tank Upgrades  
Pump/Dispenser Installations • PA, NJ, DE and MD Certified

270 Bodley Road • Aston, PA 19014

## WHY WORK WITH US?

- Be Your Own Boss
- Enjoy Outside Sales Independence
- Proven Products
- Flexible Schedule
- Generous Commissions



**NOW  
HIRING!!!**

*Rewarding Work That  
Fits Your Life!*

Call for Information 215-257-1500 x106  
Email your resume to gregory.cbn@gmail.com



*Family-Owned &  
Operated Since 1957*

44 Smithbridge Rd • Chester Heights  
610-459-3474 • www.civconco.com

**SIDING • WINDOWS • DOORS • GUTTERS  
CUSTOM EXTERIOR TRIM  
ROOF REPAIRS & EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE**

## GERALD C. MONTELLA

*Attorney At Law*

11 West Front Street, Media, PA 19063-2816



Phone: 610-891-9150

Fax: 610-891-1157

jerry.montella@comcast.net

## Steve Luongo's

Automotive Repair Specialists

**610-558-1000**

338 PARKMOUNT ROAD MEDIA PA 24 HOUR TOWING



**BOROUGH OF CHESTER HEIGHTS  
MUNICIPAL BUILDING**

222 Llewellyn  
P.O. Box 658  
Chester Heights, PA 19017  
610.459.3400  
Fax 610.459.1282  
www.chesterheights.org

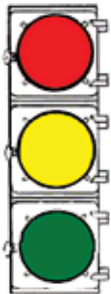
PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HARRISBURG, PA  
PERMIT NO.609



This newsletter is produced for the Borough of  
Chester Heights by **Hometown Press**  
215.257.1500 • All rights reserved®



To Place an Ad Call Peggy Kucipak Albee at Hometown Press • 215-262-3617



FOR 24 HR. SERVICE: **610-566-3700**

FAX: 610-566-1409

EMAIL: higginselec25@verizon.net

**Charles A. Higgins & Sons, Inc.**

Electrical Contractors  
Est. 1925

MUNICIPAL STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE & INSTALLATION  
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL ELECTRICITY  
TRAFFIC LIGHT REPAIRS AND INSTALLATION • POLE CONSTRUCTION

**P.O. BOX 647, MEDIA, PA 19063**



Insurance | Risk Management | Consulting

**Patrick V. Larkin, Esq.**

Area President – Pennsylvania

40 West Front Street  
Media, PA 19063  
United States

ajg.com

pat\_larkin@ajg.com

D 610.548.5115

M 610.724.1606

F 610.566.0147

The moments  
write the story...

*Pagano*  
FUNERAL HOME

On Site Crematory

**(610) 485-6200**  
www.paganofuneralhome.com  
3211 Foulk Rd. Garnet Valley, PA 19060



PRIVATE ONSITE PET FUNERAL  
HOME & PRIVATE CREMATORY  
**(610) 459-3600**  
www.pawprintsforevercrematory.com  
232 Wilmington West Chester Pike (Rt. 202)  
Chadds Ford, PA 19317

**KELLY'S  
LANDSCAPING INC.**  
landscape design & installation

**DISCOUNT!  
Fall  
Clean Ups**

**workmanship you can trust**  
call today for your free estimate **610-497-0580**

**LANDSCAPING**

- fall cleanup • mulch • tree work
- shrub, bush & tree trimming, shaping & fertilizing
- lawn maintenance & fertilizing • hardscaping
- low-voltage lighting • retaining walls

**CONSTRUCTION**

- excavation • block work • foundations & footers
- all phases of concrete • blacktop repair & sealcoating
- line striping • all types of drainage & irrigation systems

**BEFORE FALL CLEANUP**

**AFTER FALL CLEANUP**

**FIREWOOD  
\$185/CORD**

**CONCRETE  
BLOCK 4'X4'  
Only \$225**

**MULCH  
Only \$30/yd.**

**CALL NOW  
AND SAVE!**

**www.kellyslandscapingpa.com**

LIC# PA015656