

London Grove Township Gazette

Winter 2023/2024

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

Dear Community,

I want to extend a great big thank you to so many people who helped make the Celebration of London Grove's 300th Anniversary a success. Some of you might be giving me credit for its organization, but my role was so small in comparison to all the people and resources that came together to fill Goddard Park with a festive, happy family and pet-friendly environment on Saturday afternoon, October 21st.

For starters, we had incredibly generous sponsors who gave us over \$8,000 to provide entertainment, shelter and giveaways. The list is long, but it is headed by the Mushroom Growers of Pennsylvania and Twin Pines Health Care Center. Additional sponsorship was noted on a sign in the park, shown below.

Then a small army of volunteers showed up to help direct traffic, help move tables and chairs, and to man those tables, and finally to help with clean up. Notable were a dozen bright teens from the National Honor Society and the Leos- they worked so hard.

Laura Miller of Wallace Landscaping, who heads our all-volunteer Parks and Recreation Committee, was the reason we had food trucks full of delicious food, a bouncy house and petting zoo for the kids. She got a stage and tents strong enough to withstand the day's winds, and she was the diplomatic glue that kept town staff and volunteers working together.

Jane Yeksigian of the Historical Committee made sure the event had historical significance, organizing a ceremony with state representative John Lawrence and County Commissioner Marion Moskowitz. The committee also organized a scavenger hunt for the kids, with prizes.

Then there were over 30 exhibitors, including State Police, West Grove Fire Company, EMS, and important community organized like LCH, Mighty Writers, Stroud Water research Center, Lion's Club and It's a long list.

I've done the work of "vending" and packing up, arriving and setting up, sitting in the open all day, then packing up again, going home and unpacking again. Sometimes making great money, sometimes nothing. I have so much appreciation for all who took a gamble on our community day, and who smiled and added the presence of their talents and their personalities to our gathering.

Even beloved pets were a big part of our day, many in costumes, with Camp Bow Wow serving as an epicenter for those who came on a leash even though the photo booth they prepared was not up to the 35 mph sustained winds task.

A community day only works when the community participates and so many made an effort to be there, to smile, to be positive, and to show support. An estimated 5-600 people came out on a blustery, cloudy day under threat of rain, and talked to each other, dined together, played, and created a sense of community and belonging for all. I am grateful that I had my small role in helping to make it happen.

Tina Skinner- Volunteer



Why Did the Lenape People Accept the name “Delaware”?

London Grove Township Historical Commission

It has been known that the name applied to the Native people who lived along the Delaware River was taken from the title of Englishman, Lord de la Warr, whose name was Sir Thomas West. He was appointed governor of the English colony at Jamestown, Virginia in 1610. One of his followers, Captain Samuel Argall, once sailed into a majestic bay that he named “de la Warr Bay” in honor of the governor. The river that flowed into the bay was given the same name, and they both were later contracted into the Delaware.

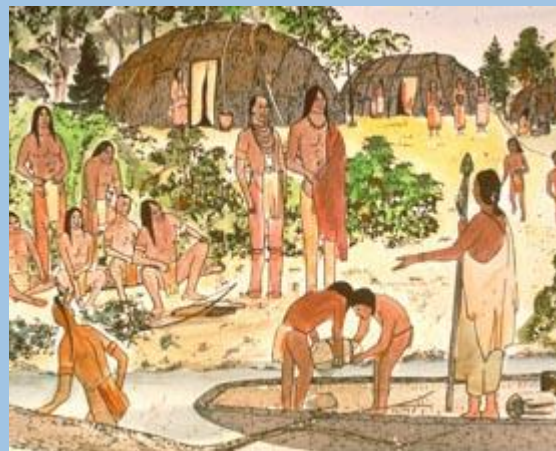
People have asked why the Lenape people seem to have no problem with accepting this “foreign” name for themselves. The reason is that the Lenape have their own story about the origin of the name “Delaware.” It is as follows:

The Lenape story is that when the Europeans first arrived a gentleman kept trying to ask a Lenape what tribe he belonged to, and he told him “Lenape.” For some reason, the Europeans had trouble saying the word properly and would say “Lenuhpee,” “Renahpay” and other mispronunciations. Finally, he said “Lenape” correctly, and the Lenape said, “Nal nē ndēluwèn! Nal nē ndēluwèn!” (That’s what I said! That’s what I said!).

The gentleman heard the DULUWEN part and he said, “Oh, you said Delaware! So, you are a “Delaware”. Now I know what to call you,” and the name stuck.

The Delaware People have used the name ever since that time because they knew that the colonists just could not say Lenape properly. Of course, when speaking to each other, Lenape people call themselves “Lenape.”

Before and during the early colonization of America the Lenni-Lenape peoples hunted and fished the area of London Grove Township. In the township building are examples of arrowheads that have been found around the township. Please feel free to visit the Township Building during business hours to view these and other artifacts of the history of the Township.





WE'RE ALL
IN THIS
Together



London Grove Township Blood Drive

Friday, February 9, 2024

10:00 a.m. till 3:00 p.m.

London Grove Township Building

www.redcrossblood.org/make-donation

For helpful tips and to reserve your appointment time click the link above. Search for sponsor code: **londongrove** to schedule an appointment. For Donor Eligibility Guidelines: Call 1-800-REDCROSS

Please contact tedra.farrell@redcross.org if you experience issues.



**London Grove Township Building
372 Rose Hill Road
West Grove, PA 19390
610-345-0100**



Fireplace & Chimney Safety This Winter

By: Jordon Hoopes



The consequences of ignoring your chimney could be devastating. According to the Chimney Safety Institute of America (CSIA), around 25,000 chimney fires occur each year. Those fires cause the roughly 125 million dollars in damages.

All of this could be avoided by a simple yearly cleaning. It's much better to pay for a once a year service, than to run the risk of losing your home

So What Causes Chimney Fires?

The most likely culprit is creosote. Creosote is the byproduct of burning wood which builds up and clings to the walls of your chimney until it is removed. This is due to the fact that gases, condensation and particles are released from the fire, and then condense and land on the walls of your chimney. Over time, this highly flammable substance could be the cause of your chimney fire.

What Can I Do To Prevent This?

There are multiple ways to safely operate and maintain your fireplace so that you and your family can gather round and be toasty warm this winter.

1. Practice general fireplace safety whenever you are burning. Make sure that your damper is open to allow smoke to escape. Keep flammable household objects like blankets, clothing and rugs at least 3 feet away from your fireplace. It is also a good habit to clean the old ash and soot out of your fireplace every so often. Make sure to wait 24 hours before doing so to give your fireplace time to cool.
2. Use seasoned firewood. Seasoned firewood has been allowed to fully dry out. This means there is less condensation to create a buildup of creosote. Hard woods are also better than softer woods, as they have less sap, which leads to less creosote. Your chimney still needs cleaned whether you use seasoned, hard firewood or not.
3. You should have your chimney cleaned by a professional once every 3 months for a wood burning fire place, and once a year for most other types such as oil or gas. These numbers depend on usage, so your needs may vary.





Eagle Scout Project: Elliot McLean

By: Jordon Hoopes


London Grove Township is proud to highlight the Eagle Scout Project of Elliot McLean from Troop 62. He aiding the community by making the lives of those who hike the trails at Goddard Park easier. Many of us love to get outside and stretch our legs somewhere more natural. Somewhere that makes us feel like we can get away from our neighborhood or our own backyard. One of the best local places to do this is Goddard Park. When on a walk or hike, it is much nicer to just relax and enjoy your time in nature than to constantly worry about where you are and where you're going. Thanks to Elliot, this won't be a problem any longer.

His project focuses on installing new mile markers on the trails here at Goddard Park. The current mile markers have suffered years of abuse and the elements have taken their toll. It is all too easy to get lost and have to try and remember where you came from. This isn't just an inconvenience, it could be dangerous. Those of us who know the trails may take for granted that there are others who are exploring them for the first time. They could be injured, lost, or have a medical emergency and not know where they are.

Project Overview

These mile markers would be added to approximately 1.8 miles of trail which include the White Clay Trail, Gouge Trail, Systemic Trail, Conard Pyle Path, and Wicketon Trail. The second half will be added to the Dallas Green East, Dallas Green West, and Paddy Nelson III trails.

The mile markers themselves will be much more detailed and informative than the existing ones. Each marker will have The mile marker itself, (1/10th, 2/10th, etc.), as well as the name of the trail, and the corresponding color. All of these details will prove extremely useful in the event of an emergency, as well as providing extra convenience for normal recreational use.

For an example of what the mile marker may look like, see the image to the right. 



Mile
0.1
Dallas Green
East Trail

FREE TECH TAKE BACK



RECYCLE EVERY DAY

- 1 Visit your Staples® store and speak to an associate at Checkout.
- 2 Drop off your eligible items to be recycled.
- 3 Earn rewards and unlock exclusive offers.

Exclusions apply. Please visit staples.com/recycling for details. Limited to once per customer per calendar month. Redeemable in store only. Valid 4/16/23-6/3/23.



RECYCLE EVERY DAY



Free recycling for tech and more at your local Staples® store.

TECH

Adapters & cables
Battery backup devices
Cable/satellite receivers
Calculators
CD/DVD/Blu-ray discs & players
Coffee brewers (less than 40 lb.)
Computers
Computer speakers
Connected home devices
Digital & video cameras
Digital projectors
Fax machines
Flash drives
Gaming consoles & controllers
GPS devices
Hard drives
Headphones & earbuds
Keyboards & mice
Label makers
Laminators
Laptops
MP3 players
Monitors (CRT, LED / LCD, plasma)
Phones
Printers & multifunction devices
Routers & modems

TECH (CONT.)

Scanners
Shredders
Small servers
Stereo receivers
Stylus pens
Tablets & eReaders
Video streaming devices
Webcams

PRINTER CARTRIDGES

Ink cartridges
Toner cartridges

BATTERIES

Single-use alkaline **NEW**
Non-rechargeable lithium **NEW**
Rechargeable
Nickel cadmium (Ni-Cd)
Lithium ion (Li-Ion)
Small sealed lead acid (SSLA/Pb)
Nickel metal hydride (Ni-MH)
Nickel zinc (Ni-ZN)

WRITING TOOLS

Pens & markers **NEW**
Mechanical pencils **NEW**

EVEN MORE

Phone cases **NEW**
Tablet cases **NEW**
Shredding (cost per pound)
SodaStream® CO2 cylinders



WHAT CAN'T BE RECYCLED IN STORE

Air conditioners, appliances, floor-model printers & copiers, kitchen appliances, lamps or bulbs, large servers, large speakers, medical devices, records & record players, smoke detectors, TVs, vaporizers.

Store management has the right to refuse to accept items that may pose a health or safety risk. When you recycle your eligible electronic device at Staples, you relinquish all ownership rights in the device when you give it to Staples to be recycled. Additionally, Staples is not responsible for any data left on the device turned in for recycling. You are solely responsible for removing data from your device, and you acknowledge that submission of a device for recycling is at your sole risk. When you give your device to Staples for recycling, you further represent that you either: (1) are the sole owner of the electronic device and of any data that was on the electronic device before you deleted all such data prior to recycling; or (2) have permission to proceed with recycling from all other owners of the electronic device or of any data that was on the electronic device before you deleted all such data prior to recycling.

Scan to get the app
and see recycling
rewards and more.





Increasing Affordable Housing in our Community

November 14, 2023

136 Cedar Street, Kennett Square, PA 19348

Kennett Area Community Services (KACS)- On Thursday, November 9th, Kennett Area Community Services (KACS) accepted the donation of its first home to be used as affordable housing. KACS received the designation of Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) from Chester County this May. After that announcement, an anonymous donor came forward and offered a property for KAC's new housing initiative.

KACS is developing a systemic approach to providing homes that treat housing not as a commodity but as a human right. Across Chester County and beyond, the rising cost of renting and buying a home has placed tremendous burdens on our neighbors in communities throughout the region. KACS hopes to be part of a collaboration across the region, seeking a unified vision, goals, and set of strategies to better rise to this challenge.

The lack of affordable housing stems from the contradictory demands for real estate as a commodity and housing as a social good. For housing activists around the country, the appeal for affordable housing is its promise to "decommodify" housing- that is, to shield housing costs and access from the private market.

As stated by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), "Housing is the key to reducing intergenerational poverty and increasing economic mobility. Research shows that increasing access to affordable housing is the most cost-effective strategy for reducing childhood poverty and increasing economic mobility in the United States.

Increasing access to affordable housing bolsters economic growth. Research shows that the shortage of affordable housing costs the American economy about \$2 trillion a year in lower wages and productivity. Without affordable housing, families have constrained opportunities to increase earnings, causing slower GDP growth. In fact, researchers estimate that the growth in GDP between 1964 and 2009 would have been 13.5% higher if families had better access to affordable housing. This would have led to a \$1.7 trillion increase in income or \$8,775 in additional wages per worker.

Moreover, each dollar invested in affordable housing boosts local economics by leveraging public and private resources to generate income-including resident earnings and additional local tax revenue- and supports job creation and retention."

Each community has its own specific challenges in response to housing. In Chester County, houses can't be built fast enough. Our population is growing, and there's a diminishing supply of housing, along with land constraints.

At the same time, there's a shortage of construction workers, which means building costs are rising. And incomes aren't keeping pace with rising rents and home values, sometimes 5-10% annually.

Affordable housing means an available supply of housing at every income level.

To learn more about this new initiative at KACS please contact:

Cheryl Miles

Community Housing Development Director

Ph: 610-925-3556x122/ Fax: 484-732-8227

cherylm@KACSImpact.org

Kennett Area Community Services (KACS)

136 West Cedar Street- Kennett Food Cupboard

Kennett Square, PA 19348



Inniscrone Golf Club News

By: Chris Ward

With the 2023 season coming to an end, we look back at a very good season for Inniscrone Golf Club and look forward to 2024. The golf course was in great shape all year long and golfers were very complimentary about the conditions. This was also the first time the pro shop was open back up for golfers to come inside since COVID. Between the conditions and the pro shop being open the word was out that Inniscrone was changing for the better. On weekends that had nice weather, the golf course was so busy that having enough golf carts became a problem. This is a good problem to have to address and we do have plans to fix that issue.

In 2024 we have plans that will keep Inniscrone growing in the right direction. The pro shop building itself needs some repairs performed to mainly the outside of the building. These repairs will begin in 2024 and continue for the next couple of years. There are also plans to get the maintenance staff so much needed equipment. Aeration equipment is at the top of the list as the golf course does not currently own any aeration equipment. By being able to aerate on a consistent schedule, Inniscrone will become an even better golf course to play. Finally, the golf course has budgeted money to repair some of the cart paths around the course. One of these areas is the cart path on 18 which has a steep and hazardous hill. The cart path will now be brought in front of the tees to decrease the steepness of that path. Cart path installation will be performed by our Public Works Department to keep the cost down and we are greatly appreciative to Shane Kinsey and his staff.

The upcoming year will have a little more excitement than most years as 2024 will be the 25th anniversary of Inniscrone Golf Club. We will be having anniversary specials and merchandise, so keep an eye out as we get into the new season. Currently new membership pricing is out for the 2024 season. Please stop by or call the pro shop at 484-720-8442 if you have any interest in becoming a member of Inniscrone Golf Club.



Winter 2023/2024 at the Avon Grove Library

As the year 2023 comes to an end, the Avon Grove Library has plenty to offer our customers in 2024!



Dungeons and Dragons
for teens in grades 6-12

Last Wednesday of each month
3:00-5:00 pm

Space is Limited.
Registration Required.



PAWS for People
PAWS for Reading

First Saturday of each Month
Ham-Noon
Read Aloud with
PAWS Therapy Dog and Owner
(15 minute session)
Registration Required

STARTING IN SEPTEMBER
FOR YOUTH IN GRADES 6 AND UP



GAMING CLUB

1ST AND 3RD WEDNESDAYS
3:00-5:00 P.M.
ACTIVITY ROOM



STEM Saturday

Second Saturday of the Month
Grades K-2, 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
Grades 3-5, 11:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Activity Room
Registration required



TEEN STEM SATURDAY

MONTHLY ON SELECT SATURDAYS

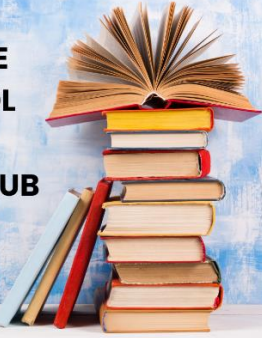
10:30 AM - 1:00PM
ACTIVITY ROOM

HYBRID-STYLE LEARNING

For youth in grades 6 and up
and interested caregivers.
Registration required.



MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOK CLUB



High School Book Club



Other programs include: Teen Advisory Board and Teen Service Club; Chess Club; Toddler & preschool Storytimes (sensory, craft themed and “classic”- books/songs/crafts); Family Paint Day, Book Club for Adults & Grab and Go Craft Kits for all ages.

Be sure to check the library’s Facebook and Instagram; website www.avongrovelibrary.org, and sign up for the monthly newsletter. Library Director, David Payne shares “There’s more to come in 2024. We are planning a variety of programs and events for all ages. We are also adding services to our offerings to enhance your library experience.”



Township Departments and Staff

By: Dawn Maciejczyk

London Grove Township consist of many different departments, buildings and staff to keep day to day operations running smoothly. Below is a breakdown of the buildings, hours of operation, contact information and staff.

Administration Building:

The Administration Building is located at 372 Rose Hill Road, West Grove, PA 19390. Hours of Operation are from 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Main Phone Number is 610-345-0100, Fax Number is 610-345-0455. The office staff consist of 3 main departments, Administration Department, Codes Department and Finance Department.

Public Works Building:

The Public Works Building is located at 374 Rose Hill Road, West Grove, PA 19390. Hours of Operation are from 6:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Main Phone Number is 610-345-0100, Fax Number is 610-345-0455.

Inniscrone Golf Course:

The Inniscrone Golf Course is located at 15 Athelone Way, Avondale, PA 19311. Hours of Operation are from 6:00 a.m. – Dark Sunday- Saturday (7 days a week). Main Phone Number is 484-577-2700.

Administration Department:

Township Manager/Zoning Officer, Ken Battin
Assistant Township Manager, Dawn Maciejczyk
Township Secretary, Dawn Maciejczyk
Receptionist/Admin Assistant: Jordon Hoopes

Codes Department:

Director of Codes & Life Safety, Brian Elwood
Building Code Official, Latta White
Fire Marshal, Tim Shannon

Finance Department:

Treasurer: Tracy Kellett
Utility Billing, Mellissa Morris

Public Works Building:

Public Works Director, Shane Kinsey
Public Works Foreman, Nate Hughes
Laborer/Wastewater. Andrew Brzezicki
Laborer, Joey Swift
Laborer, Ryan Yerkes
Laborer, Mike Hughes
Laborer, Shaun Dickerson
Laborer, Ryan Huey
Laborer, Brenden McNair

Inniscrone Golf Club:

Golf Club Greens Manager, Chris Newdeck
Golf Club Clubhouse Manager, Chris Ward
Pro Shop Manager, Jesse Connors

2024 Public Meeting Schedule

Most meetings are being conducted in-person.

Municipal Authority Board Meetings- 1st Monday of every other month at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Supervisors Meetings- 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Historical Commission meetings- 2nd Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m.

Open Space Committee Meetings- 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Meetings- 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission Meetings- Last Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Except for December. 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Zoning Hearing Board Meetings- As Necessary.

All meetings will happen on the day above as listed unless it is a holiday or other announcements have been made. All meetings are listed on the Township Website Calendar.



Rate Increase for London Grove Water Customer

By: Melissa Morris

Because of increasing maintenance and supply cost increases, **LGTMMA will institute a 9% increase in our rates, effective January 15, 2024.** Sewer rates will remain the same.

We have not raised our rates since 2016 and will always work to keep our rates low.

We thank you for your understanding and support in helping us grow to meet your needs.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Current Water Rate

\$73.45 for 7,000 gallons or less
\$4.48 for each additional 1,000 gallons

New Water Rate

\$80.06 for 7,000 gallons or less
\$4.88 for each additional 1,000 gallons

London Grove Township
372 Rose Hill Road
West Grove, PA 19390

