



The New Garden Lyceum

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NEW GARDEN TOWNSHIP

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MEETING SCHEDULE

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
3rd Monday - 7pm
PLANNING COMMISSION
3rd Wednesday - 7pm
PARKS & RECREATION
3rd Monday - 5pm
HISTORIC COMMISSION
1st Wednesday - 7:30pm
OPEN SPACE REVIEW BOARD
2nd Tuesday - 7pm
ZONING HEARING BOARD
As needed
BUILDING APPEALS
As needed
COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE
2nd Tuesday - 9am

MESSAGE FROM THE TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Dear Lyceum Newsletter Readers,

Spring has sprung (!?) I am not sure what the weather will actually be like when you get to read this, but it's warm out today and I'm going to be optimistic!

First, I'd like to thank everyone for an amazing year. Even though we have been inside or semi-isolated, I have been lucky to "meet" many of you via phone, email, Zoom or some other avenue. And I have to say that it has been awesome. I am constantly bragging about New Garden residents to other managers, and I am definitely considered lucky by most. Because I am!

2020 was a whirlwind of events. We finally closed on the sewer sale. We hired a couple of new staff members. We worked diligently on the Master Plan for St. Anthony's (which should be unveiled shortly). The Newark Road project was completed. New Garden Park Phase Two was officially opened for activity. And these are just the big-ticket items.

Now that it is 2021, we have our sights set on St. Anthony's in the Hills. As you may have heard, Splash Surf Club is hard at work to open for their self-imposed Memorial Day deadline. This is exciting news, and New Garden Township residents do receive a discount.

I am trying very hard not to be redundant here, as I have been trying to keep everyone aware of all that is happening with my weekly "Friday Update from the Manager". If you have not subscribed to these, please check them out on the New Garden Township website and sign up to have them delivered to your inbox.



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New Garden Board of Supervisors



J. Patrick Little, Chairman



Michael Loftus, Vice Chairman



Stephen Allaband, Member



Kristie Brodowski, Member



David Unger, Member

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 - MANAGER REINER

Because things are still in flux in the world, we are continuing to hold all of our meetings virtually. This is a great time to check out the work being done and getting a feel for different boards and committees. We still have 2 vacancies on the Historical Commission and openings on the Communication Committee. If you are interested, please email the “volunteer form” on our website to office@newgarden.org. In fact, you can do that for any/all Boards and Commissions, and we will keep your info on file. Just don’t be surprised when we call you later!

Again, we are hard at work in the office and miss seeing your smiling faces. You are always welcome to call or email if you have questions or concerns. We are here to help and for the most part pretty nice.

Ramsey Reiner, Township Manager

New Garden Township Annual Spring Clean Up

When: Thursday, April 15th 7am - 7pm
Friday, April 16th 7am - 7pm
Saturday, April 17th 7am - 5pm
Sunday, April 18th 7am - 3pm



Where: Drop off location at New Garden Township Public Works Building, 8934 Gap Newport Pike, Landenberg

What: Free disposal of yard waste, non-hazardous household waste, appliances and litter. Tires and Freon items will be accepted for a small fee. No hazardous waste materials, electronics, ammunition or propane will be accepted.

& Shredding Event

When: Sunday, April 18th 9am - 12pm

Where: Drop off location at the New Garden Township Administration Building, 299 Starr Road, Landenberg

What: Free, secure, on-site document shredding of up to 4 file boxes of paper per New Garden resident.



New Garden Township Public Works Update

By: Ken Reed, Public Works Director

We certainly were spoiled with last year's winter. This year looked like it was going to be another mild one and then, thanks to that groundhog, things turned around quickly. While February is technically the shortest month of the year it seemed to drag on forever. It looks like the weather may be finally breaking and we can look forward to much warmer and hopefully drier weather.

Winter Projects

The winter started with us being able to get some much-needed tree trimming done along the roadways. We generally cut about two to five feet beyond the edge of the road and up to about 18' high. Tree trimming does a number of things to increase safety of the roadways and also the traveling public. First and foremost, it opens up the roadway and eliminates branches that hang into the roadway that can hit higher vehicles such as fire trucks, ambulances, and school buses to name a few. The trimming also opens up the roadways to improve sight distance and allow vehicles to stay more in their own travel lane as opposed to riding the center line and possibly side swiping a vehicle traveling in the opposite direction. Yet another positive point to tree trimming is that with opening up the roadway it can allow for sunlight to reach the roadway and in turn help melt snow and ice faster in the winter. We have also noticed a dramatic reduction in the number of fallen trees on roads that have been recently have trimmed back. By removing dangerous branches from the trees, they are less susceptible to falling in wind and ice events. Last but not least, we are also able to get a better look at dead or dangerous trees as a whole and can completely remove them as well. With all the positive points to tree trimming there is a negative one as well. We are not allowed to go outside of the Legal Right-of-Way, which is either 16.5' or 25' from the centerline of the road depending on the area. Because of this many times we have to go to the edge of the Right-of-Way and simply cut straight up as opposed to cutting back to the trunk of the tree which is preferable. Because we are only able to cut one side of the tree, we cannot do any shaping to balance out the tree either. One easy way to avoid that issue is to maintain the trees that are on your property yourselves. If you have a tree that is

close to the roadway or hanging into the roadway, and you would like it trimmed back and shaped, cut the tree back yourself or hire a contractor if it's too much for you. There are many local arborists around that are very dependable and affordable.

In February alone we ordered almost 1,000 tons of salt. To put that in comparison, we ordered around 400 tons for all of last winter and used even less than that because a lot of that was used to fill our storage bins to get ready for this year.

In early 2020, we added another full-time employee to the crew for Public Works. This allowed us to add an additional plow route to help more efficiently clear roadways from snow and ice. There were a few hiccups in the beginning of the season with figuring out the best way to split up existing routes without backtracking too much. Most of those issues have been worked out and moving forward everyone should see a faster response to winter weather. That being said, and for unknown reasons, a cursed voodoo doll of some sort plagued us with mechanical breakdowns in every single storm and at times multiple breakdowns in a single storm. Some of these breakdowns ranged from something as simple as a blown hydraulic line, which we try to keep spares in stock to a malfunctioning plow controller (again we

keep in stock, to some more serious items like the rear wheel studs breaking and the wheel literally falling off. We even saw the weld on the bracket of a dump truck bed failing and the bed just about falling off. I am happy to report that each and every issue was repaired in house within a few hours.



In the next few weeks, we will transition from winter operations to summer operations which includes us inspecting all of our plows and spreaders, then replacing any worn or damaged parts, and finally storing them until next fall. We then pull the summer equipment out of moth balls, such as the roller and jumping jacks, and get them ready for the upcoming road and pipe work.

Spring Clean-Up

With the shutdowns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic of early 2020, we had to unfortunately cancel last years' annual spring clean-up. With it being such a new thing, we had no idea what to expect and decided to err on the side of caution to ensure the health and safety of our residents and employees. This year, while the pandemic isn't over, we feel confident that we can hold this event as long as everyone practices social distancing and wears a mask. Due to the event being cancelled last year, we are adding a day and increasing the event hours for 2021 to help spread out the time in which residents can come to dispose of any unwanted waste. As with previous events, this is only for New Garden Township residents and not businesses. There are also a number of acceptable and unacceptable items as well. Below is a list of many of the items that are accepted:

Yard waste, such as, limbs, branches, bushes; non-hazardous household waste, latex paint (dried out in small quantities or with cat litter/oil dry), appliances, grills, bikes, lawn furniture, mowers; tires and freon items are collected for a small fee.

Some items that are not accepted are: hazardous materials, chemicals, propane tanks, ammunition or explosives, electronics, or oil-based paint.

Spring/Summer Operations

Even though we never really lost the warm weather this winter, the spring season means we can return to inspection mode and go out and check on all the roads to see how they fared through the winter. We generally have a list of roads that we plan on treating for the next few years but every spring that slightly changes due to the abuse the roads take over the winter. Some roads hold up better than others, for unknown reasons, and due to that we have to alter our planned roads to keep the roads as safe as possible. In the next few weeks, we will go out and walk the majority of the roads to get an up close and personal look at each of them and determine what is needed before we pave or seal them. If you pave over an area that has a bad base you are simply putting a Band-Aid on an issue. The issue will come back very quickly, and the money spent to repave the road was basically wasted. While walking the roads we take measurements of the overall length and width of the road to accurately calculate the amount of material the road will need to be repaired. We also will mark and measure any areas that need to be repaired before the paving process starts whether it be a pipe replacement or simple base repair. Another item we look for is underground utilities. We compile a list of all underground utilities within the roadway we are treating. Every manhole and valve are opened and measured. We will order new risers for manholes and contact the other utility companies for risers for their lids in order to bring the lid or cap up to the new road elevation.

As always, will be doing the normal routine for spring and summer work. That includes base repair, continued tree trimming, sign maintenance, road bank mowing, inlet inspections, pipe/inlet repair/ replacement, and so much more.

The warmer weather means we are out working on and along the road far more frequently than in the winter. Please remember to respect all signs both in and out of active work zones. If you see signs for road work or a road closure, please obey them, they are for both your safety and ours.

Meet the Staff



Chris Adamek, Zoning & Codes

What did you want to be growing up?

I wanted to be just like my dad, he knows how to do and fix everything.

What was your first job?

Roofing with my Uncle in the summer.

Tell me about the

workday of a Zoning Officer/ Receptionist/ Maintenance & Code Official?

Helping the residents and contractors in the Township, guiding them towards compliance with Township Ordinances.

What three words best describe you?

Reasonable common sense.

Where would we find you after hours?

Spending time with my family at our shore house in the summer and riding my mountain bike.

What is your favorite thing about New Garden Township, so far?

The people, the history, and the diverse businesses and uses that we have here in New Garden.



John Gibson, Property Maintenance Code Official

What did you want to be growing up?

A police officer. (John retired from the Southern Chester County Regional Police Department after serving 35 years as a police officer in the area.

What was your first job?

I worked construction and built the stores that are now across from Goldey Beacom.

Tell me about the workday of a Zoning Officer/ Receptionist/ Maintenance & Code Official?

As an "MCO" I am basically an assistant to the Codes Official Chris Adamek. I try to help him by taking mundane issues off of his desk, make contact with people regarding their complaints, document issues, and do follow ups to make sure issues are addressed.

What three words best describe you?

Old, out of shape but having fun and loving life...

Who would you most like to meet and spend time with?

I will have to think about this one... lol...

Where would we find you after hours?

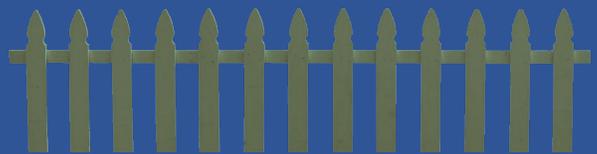
Spending time with my 3 children or exploring nature.

What is your favorite thing about New Garden Township, so far?

Its diversity. You have everything within New Garden Township, and it has great people who live within its borders.

Are you interested in installing a fence on your property?

There are a few things that you should know. First, a permit is not required to install a fence up to six feet in height and may be installed up to the property line. Second, while you have the right to install a fence on your own property, it may be a good idea to speak to your neighbor first, and to know exactly where the property line is to avoid any future issues.



New Garden Trails and Beyond

By: Chris Robinson

The New Garden Township Trail Network story began in 2009 with the formation of a volunteer group, the [Friends of the New Garden Trails](#) (FNGT). Their trailblazing efforts have helped to realize the vision expressed in the New Garden Township [Greenways Plan](#) (adopted 2008). Since then FNGT designed and constructed three trails along the White Clay Creek and one trail winding through the airport woodlands providing residents secluded foot paths amongst mature woodland, streamside environs, Township mill history and a variety of animal and plant habitats. Now, after years of trail development and well trodden foot paths, there's a growing demand for a robust system of varied pathways to connect Township's communities, commerce, open space and adjacent municipalities. In 2019 Natural Lands Conservancy worked with FNGT, the Township's Open Space Review Board and the public to plan and prioritize three trail area networks connecting New Garden residents to Kennett Township's Greenway, expand community trail access to the future trails in the Saint Anthony in the Hill preserve, and interconnect and expand the existing trails along the White Clay Creek. And, looking towards the future in 2020 New Garden Township joined the Kennett Regional Trails Committee partnering with FNGT and other organizations to identify and plan future pathways connecting existing and planned trails outside of the New Garden to Kennett Square, Kennett and East Marlborough.

Existing Trails



Laurel Woods Trail (1 mile, White Clay Watershed, "LWT" on map below)

A winding loop through the wooded hillside of the White Clay Creek Valley. Highlights include: • Rare patch of Mountain Laurel, the Pennsylvania state flower • Identified and labeled trees and shrubs; Observation platform overlooking the abandoned Pomeroy & Newark Railroad Cut with an interpretive sign • Remnants of the 19th century road into Landenberg; 35 foot long wooden bridge and numerous benches with view of the White Clay Creek Valley. Difficulty: Moderate, elevation climb 100 ft. Surface: Sections of packed dirt and woodchips. Multiple sets of stairs and bridges. Parking: Gravel lot off Laurel Heights Road.



Mill Race Trail (1.2 mile, White Clay Watershed, "MRT" on map below)

A gentle path on the abandoned Pomeroy & Newark Railroad bed and the banks of the White Clay Creek. Highlights include: • Rocky remnants of an 18th century dam that powered a mill located a half mile downstream • Concrete abutments of "Bridge 42" where the Pomeroy & Newark passenger train crashed into the icy, flooded White Clay Creek in 1904 • Wooden benches situated along the meandering White Clay Creek (east branch) • Noted for its exceptional native plants • Trout fishing accessibility along the Creek. Difficulty: Moderate, except section of the first quarter mile of trail from the parking area to the Creek are steep surface, sections of packed dirt, woodchips and cinders. Parking: Reserved spaces off Lavender Hill Lane



Landenberg Junction Trail (.4 mile, White Clay Watershed, "LJT" on map below)

The shortest and most historic trail encompassing both the Pomeroy & Newark and Wilmington & Western Railroad beds along the beautiful Wild & Scenic White Clay Creek. Highlights include: • Located in Historic Landenberg Village • Small amphibian ponds • Hendrickson homestead rain garden • Creek side picnic area • Trout fishing access. Difficulty: Easy surface, section of packed dirt, wood chips, gravel and stairs. Parking: Gravel lot off Landenberg Road.



Airport Trail (1 mile, White Clay Watershed, "APT" on map below)

This trail offers a range of unique features complimenting the community's desire for fitness, hiking, and birding. Tall oak, beech, sycamore, and tulip poplar trees provide shade with minimum undergrowth. Hawks, Warblers and other song birds populate the woods. Ferns cover parts of the understory. A combination of hard surface and packed earth trails provide an easy hike ending with a picnic in the large pavilion along the woods edge overlooking the airfield. Features: • Uninterrupted view of airport activities • Large picnic pavilion with tables • Beautiful mature woodland • Elevation height of 170 feet • Trail connects Church Road and Newark Road • 480 feet, the highest public view in New Garden. Parking: Gravel parking area at trail head.

Planned Trails

“Candlewyck” Location: #1 on map, along the south and east perimeter of Candlewyck Community connecting to its 23 acres of woodland and streams. Length: approximately 2 miles. Terrain: packed earth, minimal elevation, open and wooded. Features: streams, mature trees, wetlands and pond.

“Hiles” Location: #2 on map, along the White Clay Creek. Length: less than a .5 mile. Terrain: packed earth. Features: mature woodlands, mill history, fishing, RR history, rich fauna.

“Sproat” Location: #3 on map, Along Richard’s Run creek, running north-south, opposite Bancroft Elementary school. Length: ~.5 mile Terrain: packed earth. Features: mature woodlands, open farmed field.

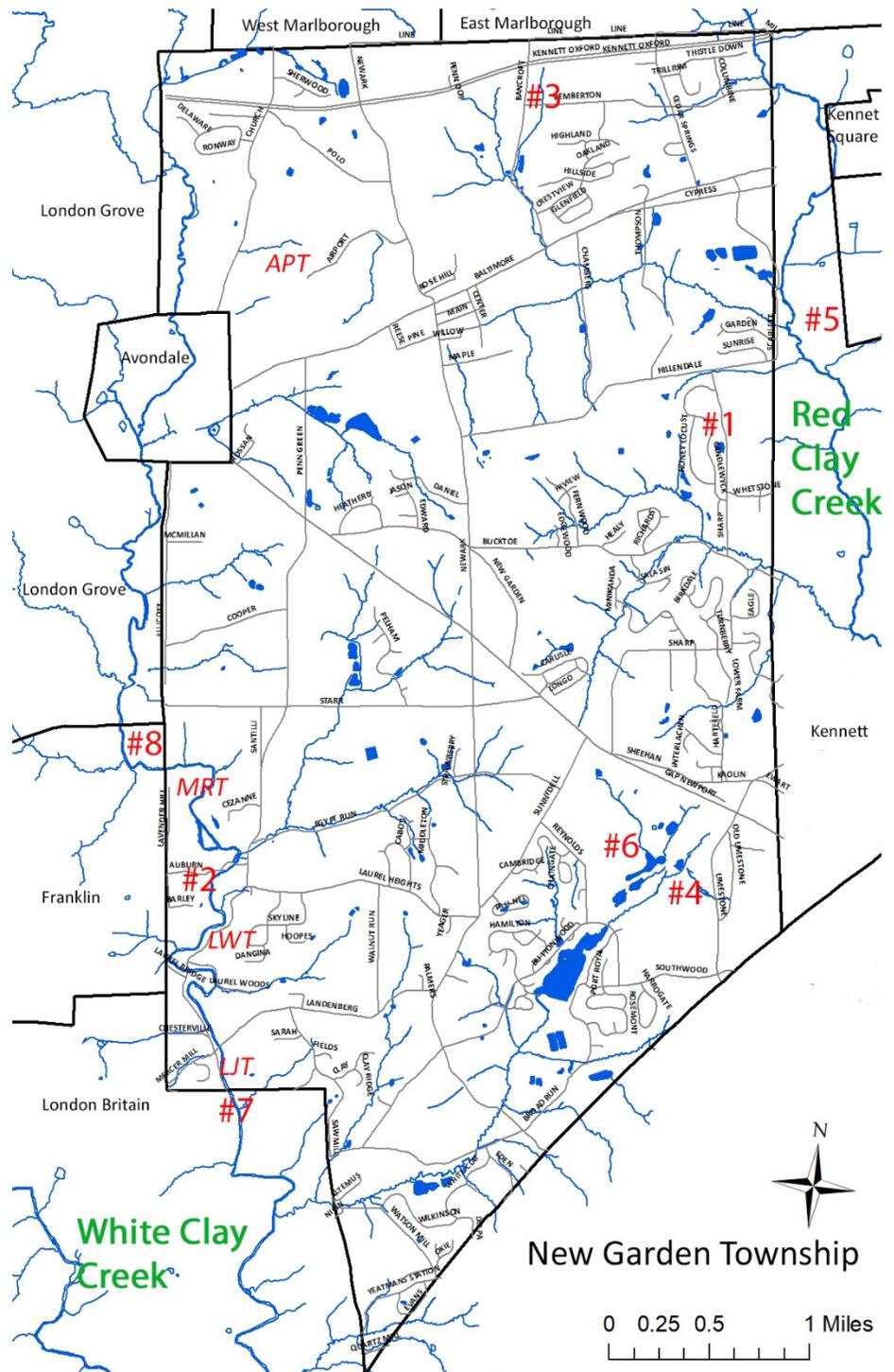
“Saint Anthony” Location: #4 on map, in Saint Anthony in the Hills. Length: total more than 2 miles. Terrain: multi-use. Features: mature woodlands, open field, mining history, Parish camp history, ponds.

Future Trails

Resident input for the Township’s 2019 [Trail Prioritization Plan](#) identified over 20 potential trails and ranked three trail areas for future development. One connects the planned Candlewyck Trail with the [Kennett Greenways](#) Trail (#5 on map). Another connects the planned trails in [Saint Anthony’s](#) to the Township Park and the Kennett Middle School (#6 on map). A third extends the existing trails along the White Clay Creek valley (#7 on map).

Keeping in step with the regional trails and multi-use walkway projects FNGT is partnering with the [Kennett Area Regional Trail Committee](#) (KRTC) to create a well-connected and consistent regional trail network through New Garden, Kennett, Kennett Square and East Marlborough. Other partners are [Bike Kennett](#), [Kennett Trails Alliance](#) and [Chester County Planning Commission](#). Furthering the KRTC’s goals are providing regional planning and communication, coordinate municipal resources and talent and ensure design consistency across communities.

The 2009 [White Clay Creek Inter-Municipal Trail Link Study](#) focused on New Garden’s western neighbors. This feasibility level analysis outlines planning steps necessary for trail location, design and construction comprising the municipalities of London Grove, Franklin and New Garden. New Garden’s existing trails along the White Clay Creek are part of this exciting, multi-municipal trail plan along the east branch of the National Wild and Scenic White Clay Creek (#8 on map).



Then there's the proposed [White Clay Loop Concept Study](#), a trail network concept of miles of pathways for pedestrians, bicyclist and hikers interconnecting New Garden and five other municipalities throughout the White Clay Creek Watershed primarily along the east and middle branches of the White Clay Creek. With growing demand for trails and long term attentive planning residents of New Garden, London Grove, Franklin, London Britain, West Grove and Avondale could have trails and non-motorized vehicle access connecting neighboring communities, commerce and Nature Preserves all located in the National Wild and Scenic White Clay Creek Watershed.

Today, this marvelous vision is decades away but the momentum is growing for this part of southern Chester County to expand and connect the existing trails already in place and planned. Meanwhile, take a walk through New Garden's trails and other municipality's trails and [volunteer](#) to maintain and expand your Township's access to its nature preserves, streams, wetlands, woodlands and communities and beyond. The Friends of the New Garden Trails members meet every 2nd Saturday at 9AM, March through November at the Laurel Woods Trail parking area to work on trail construction and maintenance.



**GIRL
POWER
STARTS
HERE!**



**Spring
Registration
Open Now!**

- New Garden Township Park
- Girls on the Run Mon/Wed 4:00-5:30pm
- Coaches needed!
- Season opens 3/29

Learn more/Register
www.gotrpa.org

New Garden Parks and Recreation Spring Update

Spring is just around the corner, thank goodness! Given the Covid-19 world that we are still working our way through, the Parks and Recreation Board has been hard at work finding ways we can celebrate this season of new beginnings and have fun too!

We had a great time with our Christmas ornament contest and the letters from Santa, so we decided to continue the new 'tradition'! Our first event was the Spring Ornament decorating contest in early March. Residents used their creative skills to decorate wooden ornaments of eggs and chicks to impress the judges with their Township Spirit, Humor, Creativity or Vibrant Colors. We are also planning a Spring Door Decorating event which will be running during May, more details to follow. Planning is also underway for a Murder Mystery event, to be held at St. Anthony In The Hills and to be produced, directed, and performed by the Kennett Amateur Theatrical Society (KATS). Last Fall's production was attended by people in over 60 cars, and we anticipate a larger turnout, as the Fall production was very well received. The provisional date is set for Saturday May 22nd. More information to come!

We anticipate making more use of St Anthony's for future events and one idea we are investigating is an Earth Day event. This will give the community an opportunity to get to know this wonderful facility and also to help with its beautification. More to come on this event too.

Lastly, a reminder that details of all these events can be found on the Township website and Facebook page. Happy Spring to all the residents of New Garden Township!




**Blood donation is
essential to ensuring
community health.**



New Garden Township Blood Drive

April 30th 2PM-7PM

Please visit:

www.redcrossblood.org

and enter SPONSOR CODE:

newgarden

Please contact:

tedra.farrell@redcross.org

with any questions.

St. Anthony's in the Hills Park update

By: Stan Lukoff

Background

In 2018 New Garden Township finalized the plans to purchase St. Anthony's in the Hills as a Township park and community recreation space. The park includes 137 acres that was once used as a summer camp for Wilmington children that did not have easy access to nature and pool facilities. The early vision of Father Roberto Balducelli was for this site to be a family-oriented space, where everyone could enjoy a natural environment. An amphitheater was used for Easter sunrise services and other special events. There is an interesting article in Delaware Today that can be found here with more information on the history of the property - <https://delawaretoday.com/home-page/qa-with-the-late-father-roberto-balducelli-pastor-of-st-anthony-of-padua-parish-in-wilmington/>. On the New Garden web site, there is additional background information on St. Anthony's that can be found here - <https://www.newgarden.org/about-new-garden/pages/st-anthonys-hills>. Included on that web page are the RFP (Request for Proposal) document that was prepared by the township, as well as the proposal from the selected Landscape Architect company, YSM (<http://ysmla.com/>), based out of York, PA. YSM has been designing and planning community spaces for over 20 years and is very well qualified to take on this challenge for the township and residents.



Study Team

On March 9th, 2020, a kickoff meeting for the St Anthony's master site plan was held. This team is composed of consultants from YSM, Natural Lands, Recreation and Park Solutions and a structural engineer. The township team consists of 2 Supervisors, 11 residents, and one of the original St. Anthony's trustees to provide history and input to the team.

The project schedule for the completion and approval of the master plan has been

delayed a bit due to Covid-19, but a lot has taken place over the last year.

Some of the project highlights to date include:

- Gathering background information and data on the property.
- Interviewing key stakeholders.
- Obtaining input from the community with an on-site event at St Anthony's back in September 2020 where more than 200 residents participated.
- Creating an online survey to gather input from residents on activities that they would like to see in the park as well as experiences. There were 676 surveys returned and reviewed by the team.

- Evaluation of some of the physical features of the site that could be improved including the pool and amphitheater facilities.
- Developing conceptual alternative designs for the park and presenting them to the Study Committee for consideration and comment.

The survey and community event were extremely useful in determining priorities and activities that will serve as input into the future master plan. Some of the key feedback received was:

- Provide opportunities for popular activities to include walking, running, and jogging on trails for fitness and wellness.
- Experience and spending time outdoor in nature and attending special events and community celebrations.
- Develop trails for walking and biking and informal picnic areas.
- Renovate the amphitheater, picnic pavilions and miniature golf course.

Current Status

YSM is in the process of drafting the Pre-Final Master Plan. This will reflect the consensus of the Study Committee after reviewing the two conceptual alternative plans for the park that were presented in late January. The Pre-Final Master Plan will be reviewed by the Study Committee. The design team will address comments from the Study Committee and then the Pre-Final Master Plan will be presented to Township residents sometime in late March or early April for community input and feedback. Based on that feedback, the plan will be finalized, and a draft report will be presented to the Township Manager and Supervisors for review and comments along with any changes being dialed into a Final Report. Keep in mind that the timeline for some of the implementation items could be 5 to 10 years out, but this report will guide the planning process for those items. Included in the master plan deliverables will be cost estimates for recommendations, staffing recommendations, mapping and plan drawings, as well as operating costs/revenue sources.



In the short term, even though the St. Anthony's Park is currently closed to residents, plans are being made to revitalize the pool and amphitheater. At the last few Board of Supervisors meetings, proposals were discussed for a private company (Splash Swim Club in Broomall, PA -<https://splashnewgarden.com/>) to invest over \$1MM to upgrade and refurbish the pool and surrounding structures, including a restaurant/snack bar. A long-term lease has now been signed, where New Garden Township will get paid \$2,000 a year, however, the Splash LLC company will be responsible for all pool renovations, operating costs and offering a variety of membership plans. Another public/private partnership is being considered for managing amphitheater events that short term, could include movies, and possibly expand to concerts and theater events. This would also include upgrading the existing seating facilities, a new performance stage with sound and lighting, as well as adding safety requirements, bathroom facilities, etc.

Be sure to keep informed of future St. Anthony's Park progress and input into plans by signing up for the Township communications page here <https://www.newgarden.org/home/pages/sign>.

Dark Sky

By: Stan Lukoff

Over the last few months, I have been discussing with our Township Manager, Ramsey Reiner, the need for a township ordinance around dark sky compliance. With new projects being planned by JP Morgan on RT 41, as well as improvements to the St. Anthony's in the Hills Township Park, it is important that the lighting is done in a way that does not impact the night sky.

So, you may be wondering what a dark sky ordinance is, and why is it important? Basically, a dark sky ordinance requires compliant lighting fixtures that are designed to light the areas going to the ground, and not going into the sky. It does not mean no lighting but using lighting for specific tasks or areas in the most efficient manner possible. Currently the township does not have a dark sky compliance ordinance. Therefore, anything that is proposed by a developer or new housing project would most likely be approved.

There are a lot of benefits to having a dark sky ordinance in place for New Garden Township. These benefits include:

- Ability to see the night sky as it was meant to be seen, including stars, planets, etc.
- Saving energy by not lighting areas that do not need to be illuminated. It is estimated that \$3 billion dollars per year is lost to bad lighting in the United States.
- Wildlife is also benefited as unnatural nighttime lighting can impact their nocturnal habits.

As the township works through researching and ultimately enacting a dark sky ordinance, there are things that homeowners can do right now. See the infographic below.

INTERNATIONAL DARK SKY WEEK - DISCOVER THE NIGHT

APRIL 5-12, 2021

Additional Resources:

<https://www.darksky.org/>

<http://www.polcouncil.org/>

<https://idsw.darksky.org/>

Protecting the night sky starts with YOU!

- 1 Light only what you need



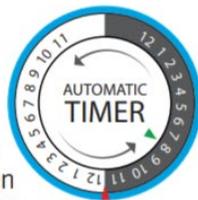
- 2 Use energy efficient bulbs and only as bright as you need



- 3 Shield lights and direct them down



- 4 Only use light when you need it



- 5 Choose warm white light bulbs



- 6 Join IDA!
We need your help to continue the fight against light pollution.

DARK SKY.ORG

Township Financial Update

By: Lewis Gay, Finance Director



On December 22, 2020 New Garden Township received \$29,742,929.64 into the Capital Fund from settlement proceeds from the sale of the sewer system to Aqua.

First priority use for these funds was to pay off Township debt. Leading up to the sale the Sewer Authority Bonds and the Township Build Loan were paid off in late November and early December. On December 23, 2020 the new police facility construction loan was paid off using \$3,012,509.45 of the sale proceeds.

On January 29, 2021 the Board of Supervisors used \$250,000.00 to open a new St. Anthony's In the Hills Fund and provide funds for this year.

Three sewer related bank accounts totaling \$1,085,171.26 were closed and these funds along with the Sewer Operating Account cash balance at 12/31/20 totaling \$2,164,509.65 were transferred in the Capital Fund as part of the sewer system sale proceeds agreement. Following this, \$256,567.00 was transferred into the Sewer Fund Operating Account for anticipated costs during 2021.

In February, sale proceeds were utilized to repay Due To/Due From interfund advances from the General Fund as follows:

A. New police facility construction costs	\$1,444,204.13
B. Debt service payments on new police building construction loan	\$ 120,654.98
C. Park Phase II construction costs	\$ 665,000.00

During February 16 Board of Supervisors meeting action was taken to dissolve the Sewer Authority. The next day the Authority's bank accounts were closed and \$34,856.26 transferred to the Capital Fund also as part of sale agreement.

The Township invested \$22,000,000.00 on February 26 with Pennsylvania Local Government Trust (PLGIT). Intention is to use up to \$100,000.00 of investment earnings each year for 5 years (Total not to exceed \$500,000.00) for contributions towards the new library construction costs. Also, annually it is anticipated to transfer \$100,000.00 of investment earnings to St. Anthony's in the Hills Fund as a perpetual funding source.

Additional Planned/Projected uses at this time for remaining funds includes:

Scarlett Road Trail	\$ 210,500.00
Broad Run Creek	\$ 35,000.00
Newark Road/Main Street	\$ 513,000.00
Toughkenamon Streetscape	\$ 238,000.00
Codes/Zoning Software	\$ 30,000.00
Transfer to Capital Reserve	\$1,575,000.00

The Kennett Library is a true resource for Southern Chester County

Kennett Library Update

The Kennett Library is open! Staff is working hard to provide library and information services to our community, despite Covid 19. Story times and other programs are virtual, online Library card applications are available so the community can access E books and other online materials. In June the Library opened its doors for browsing, computer use or to take advantage of the quiet space for work or study. In addition, curbside pick-up is available and is a safe and easy way to get the book or video you want. All recommended social guidelines are in place, so don't forget your mask!

As a result of the pandemic, usage of Overdrive (ebooks) has increased dramatically, and staff has made increasing the availability of online materials a priority. In addition, Library staff added take-home kits for children and families. Be sure to stop by and get your free project.

You can log on to www.kennettlibrary.org for a complete list of programs for children and adults. Join an online book group, tune in to children's story times on the Kennett Library's Facebook page and so much more.

Feel free to call the Library at 610-444-2702 for information on any of the great programs currently being offered.

The Time is Now for a Great Community to build a Great Library!

Imagine a Place...



Imagine entering through the doors of the new **Kennett Library & Resource Center** that has the friendly staff and the book and video collection that we have all come to depend on but also has space for such things as first run movies, Ted Talks, lectures, town hall meetings, program areas, collaborative learning spaces and a variety of community gathering places.

That is what we as a community have to look forward to in the new building – a 110-seat auditorium; two classrooms; a multipurpose room; tutor space; an outdoor terrace and two makerspaces for creating and collaborating on a variety of projects for both adults and children.

Look for work to begin in April at the site of the new building at State and Willow streets; followed by groundbreaking in July; and the grand opening in December 2022.

Together, we can build a new library that will serve all of our growing community's needs, enhance Kennett Square's streetscape and welcome friends and visitors to this wonderful place we call home.

Board of Trustees President Jeff Yetter thanks New Garden supervisors and other municipal officials for financially supporting this project and the vision for the Kennett Library & Resource Center. "We are creating an important resource for all residents of Southern Chester County. The Kennett Library & Resource Center will be a valued institution for generations to come," Jeff said.

For more information on plans for the new Library or make a donation, you can visit the Campaign website at www.campaign4KennettLibrary.org or reach out to Mary Hutchins at 610-444-2702 or mary@kennettlibrary.org.

New Garden Township Stormwater (MS4) Update Spring 2021

BY: Andrew Tuleya, ARRO Consulting

Stormwater Survey

The Township Board of Supervisors encourage residents, Township staff, and businesses to participate in this spring's stormwater survey. The survey can be found on the Township [Stormwater webpage](#). The goal of this survey is to raise stormwater awareness, involve the public in the stormwater program, and gather feedback from participants. Hard copies and/or alternative methods of distribution will also be made available for those that require accommodations. If you require special accommodations, please reach out to the Township office. The results will be shared during a meeting at a date to be determined. A direct link to the Stormwater survey can be found here: <https://arcg.is/11nSXW>



Public Stormwater Pamphlets

In addition, new stormwater educational pamphlets will soon be made available at the Township office, as well as on the Township's stormwater web page. These pamphlets will be used to communicate stormwater tips and best practices to various audience groups in the Township including residents, businesses, homeowners, and municipal staff.

Illicit Discharge Reporting and Pollution Prevention

Federal regulations define an illicit discharge as "...any discharge to an MS4 that is not composed entirely of stormwater." This can include household cleaners, lawn products, trash, and organic debris. We ask the public to not contaminate our stormwater system with items such as these. As spring approaches, please do not dispose of loose grass clippings in the street as they could inadvertently clog stormwater inlets.

The Township has an [illicit discharge reporting form](#) that can be submitted from the Illicit Discharge Detection & Elimination page of the Township website. If you witness an illicit discharge, please submit a [form](#) entry or call the Township office phone number (610-268-2915).

Structural BMPs

Please do not dispose of any trash or household items in stormwater ponds or swales. Please do not store any personal property in stormwater infrastructure. Please avoid disposing of pet waste in or around stormwater infrastructure.

ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM CLASS OFFERINGS

By: Filomena Elliott

The Adult Literacy Program (ALP) at the Kennett Library has adapted to the challenges of the COVID-19 era. Although the 2020 spring semester was cancelled in mid-March, classes soon pivoted to the Zoom platform and continued into the summer and fall of 2020 and winter of 2021.

Currently, ALP offers 4 classes in English as a Second Language, an American Citizenship class, and a General Equivalency Diploma (GED) class, all on Zoom. Of the many students who took advantage of these classes in the past year, one in six students hailed from New Garden Township. Also, of the 24 students who have successfully passed the American citizenship test in the past two years, six are from New Garden. ALP congratulates them, applauds their motivation and tenacity, and is proud of their success!

If you are interested in ALP classes, or know someone who might benefit, please check the schedule and call or email for more information. ALP Director Filomena Elliott is happy to take registrations via phone at 610-444-9118 or email at felliott@ccls.org.

A very special note of appreciation goes to New Garden Township for its continued support of the Kennett Library and its many programs open to all ages –from very small children to adults. The library’s future growth will bring many new and exciting programs, resources, and learning opportunities to all members of our community. Thank you!

LEARN WITH US! Virtual Classes on Zoom

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Classes resumed January 4, 2021



CLASS	CLASS DATE
Beginning ESL	Tuesdays
Intermediate ESL	Thursdays
High Intermediate ESL	Tuesdays
Advanced ESL	Thursdays
American Citizenship	Thursdays



Contact Filomena Elliott or Lupe Ruiz

felliott@ccls.org | lruiz@ccls.org | (610) 444-9118

¡APRENDA CON NOSOTROS! Clases virtuales en Zoom

de 7:00 a 8:30 p.m.

Se regresó en clase el 4 de enero, 2021



CLASE	FECHA DE CLASE
Inglés principiante	martes
Inglés intermedio	jueves
Inglés intermedio alto	martes
Inglés avanzado	jueves
Ciudadanía	jueves



Contacte a Filomena Elliott o a Lupe Ruiz

felliott@ccls.org | lruiz@ccls.org | (610) 444-9118

GED class (in English) beginning on March 3, 2021

Class meets on Zoom on Wednesdays, 10:30 AM to 12:00 noon.

Please call for more information and to register.



Drive-thru Murder Mystery

May 22nd 3-6pm
St. Anthony's in the Hills



www.callkats.org

The British Army in New Garden: September 9, 1777

Margaret B. Jones, Ph.D.

It was July 23, 1777, and the British ships in New York harbor were under sail, their destination, Philadelphia.

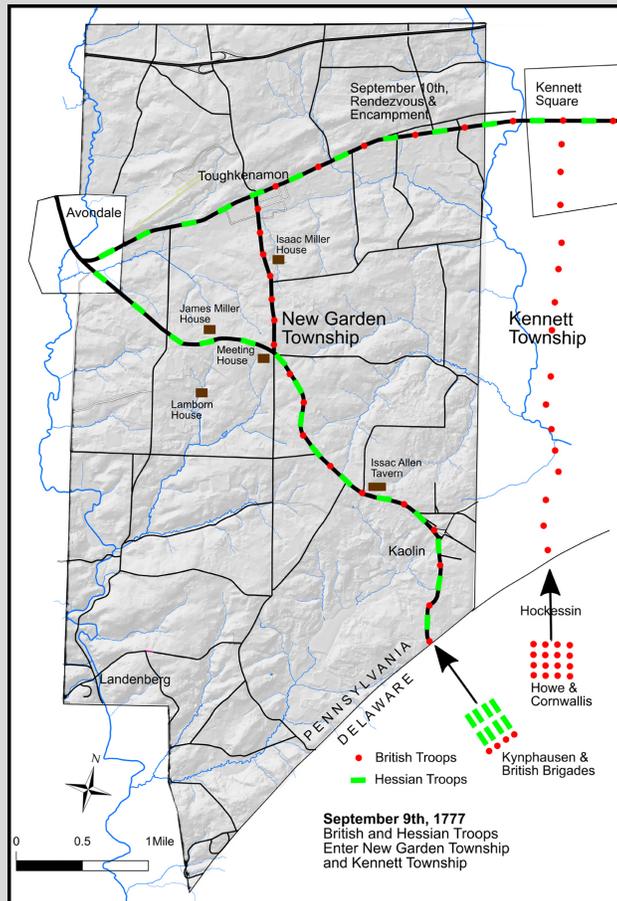


Reenactment of British troop march. (Lawson)

It would be a blow to the Rebel cause if the Continental Congress, then meeting in Philadelphia, were to be captured. The plan was to take an armada of ships carrying about 18,000 men up the Delaware River to make a quick strike and occupy Philadelphia. However, it would be a month before the Crown Forces would ever set foot on land. Washington had fortified both sides of the Delaware, making that approach to Philadelphia much too dangerous.

The alternate plan was to sail into the Chesapeake; unfortunately, the weather was not auspicious for sailing ships. Because they were at the mercy of the wind and waves, the ships were often either battered by wind during severe thunderstorms or becalmed when the wind ceased to blow. With the heat and crowded conditions (one ship carried 1000 men) conditions on shipboard were miserable. Soldiers were seasick, horses died in the heat without sufficient water, food spoiled, and accidents happened.

Finally, a month later, on August 25, the ships moored as unobtrusively as possible, eight miles from the Head of the Elk (River). Under the cover of darkness, men and horses were loaded on flatboats, landing near the Cecil Court House. Nearly 300 horses had either died or were too sick for use, twenty-seven men had died, and the incessant rain had spoiled much of their food and ammunition. Two weeks would elapse before General William Howe and the British Crown Forces would march into Pennsylvania. Horses and supplies needed to be replenished, and the soldiers needed to recover from their shipboard confinement.



British and Hessian (Kynphausen) troop movement from Delaware through New Garden Township, November 9-10th, 1777 rendezvousing with General Howe and Cornwallis troops in Kennett Square area on evening of November 10th. (NG Historical Commission).

General Howe really had two armies, about 18,000 men altogether. One army was under the command of General Charles Cornwallis and Hessian General Wilhelm von Knyphausen led the other. The march from the Head of the Elk to Philadelphia was hampered by the very hot weather and frequent thunderstorms. In the mud, progress was slow. Through purchase or requisition, food supplies and horses were replenished. There is a story of one local farmer driving his animals into the path of the army, saying, "Take my cattle, but leave my buildings." This must have happened many times over if armies of this size were to be provisioned. Looting and foraging were part of "living off the land."

Howe, who had believed he would be "liberating" the countryside through which they marched, was disappointed to find an indifferent populace. There were, however, some small pockets of resistance. The first engagement, the first combat, with Continental troops came on September 3 at Cooch's Bridge south of Newark, Delaware. General William Maxwell and a brigade of 800 light infantrymen attacked the British, but running low on

ammunition, fled the battlefield in disorder. The British marched on, following the route of modern day Delaware Route 7.¹ Eventually they made camp spreading from the Limestone Road to Hockessin.² Two weeks had elapsed since Howe had landed at The Head of the Elk.

On the morning of September 9, it dawned hot and muggy with the promise of afternoon thunderstorms. The order came for the armies to strike their tents, pack their wagons and prepare to move out. This was the day they would march across New Garden Township, leaving devastation in their path. The two armies departed separately, taking different routes. Knyphausen marched to Kennett via modern day Avondale. Leaving at about 1:00 p.m., his army of about 5500 Hessian soldiers with the bulk of the British baggage (wagons of ammunition, food and tents, as well as 12 cannons) headed for the Nottingham Road.³ General Howe wanted Knyphausen's Hessian army to act as a screen for Cornwallis' left flank as that army marched by way of Hockessin, toward Kennett.

Knyphausen's column traveled up the Limestone Road to the Gap-Newport Pike, which in those days followed Sheehan Road and New Garden Roads, past the Friends Meeting House and west to modern day Avondale.⁴ Here they turned east toward Kennett Square.⁵ The last of Knyphausen's soldiers did not leave the encampment along the Limestone Road until 6:00 p.m. meaning that the column of soldiers was five hours long. From early afternoon until midnight, those living along Knyphausen's route would have seen a steady stream of soldiers passing by.

Knyphausen's Hessians had an easier march than those forces marching with Cornwallis. Cornwallis' army did not leave the encampment until almost dark. It was hoped that darkness would mask their movements from scouts, but it also meant for great confusion as the soldiers searched for roads. Carrying all their gear, which included muskets, swords and bayonets, they marched along Valley Road. When they reached the area of modern day Lantana Square, they struggled to walk through the muddy, marshy terrain. This slow going caused Howe to dispatch two officers and twelve mounted Dragoons, to find Knyphausen. They were to tell him to halt his march, to wait at the New Garden Meeting House. Howe did not want half of his forces encamped somewhere without the protection of the entire army.



New Garden Meeting House (NG Historical Commission).

However, Knyphausen had already passed the Meeting House; he couldn't turn his army around, it wasn't possible to turn back. About midnight, Knyphausen reached his destination east of Toughkenamon; here he halted his column and made camp. Meanwhile the British Dragoons who had been sent to locate Knyphausen encountered Colonial Militia near the Meeting House and a skirmish ensued,⁶ all in total darkness. As the Dragoons, rode back to report to Howe, they stumbled on two British Brigades (3000 men) who in the dark and under a steady downpour had gotten lost. Instead of following on to Avondale, the Brigades took a short cut, turning north on Newark Road and finally toward morning, arrived at the Hessian encampment. It was noon before Howe and Cornwallis with 9000 men arrived at the heights east of Kennett.

¹ Delaware Route 7 has been called the Limestone Road.

² Mowday, Bruce. September 11, 1777: Washington's Defeat at Brandywine Dooms Philadelphia, White Mane Books, 2002

³ The Great Nottingham Road is known today as the Baltimore Pike or Rt.1.

⁴ Picture a column of ten men across, marching across the fields of the Jones and Marsden farms.

⁵ Andrew Outten, director of the Brandywine Battlefield Park, in correspondence about the American Battlefield Protection Program.

⁶ Quakers might have stood outside the Meeting House, discussing the events of September 9, but within the Meeting House, no one would have spoken of the war. A search of Minutes for that September revealed no mention of the skirmish, only a statement saying that members, who were in Philadelphia attending Yearly Meeting, were unable to return and be present for First Day Meeting.

The next morning, September 11, following a rendezvous near Old Kennett Meeting House, General Cornwallis marched his men toward Marshallton, a distance of about 17 miles; here they crossed the Brandywine to outflank Washington's position. Simultaneously, a diversionary march of 6000 British and Hessian soldiers as well as Loyalists led by General Knyphausen moved up the Great Nottingham Road toward Chadds Ford. The Battle of the Brandywine was about to be enjoined.

In the battle at Chadds Ford, the British defeated Washington's forces, marched on to Philadelphia and spent the winter. However, they were unable to capture the Continental Congress which had fled first to Lancaster and then to York. Meanwhile, Washington's soldiers retreated to Valley Forge where, although it was a winter of privation, they were forged into a proper army.



Isaac Allen Tavern ~1960, extinct. (NG Historical Commission)

Although the time British forces spent marching across New Garden Township was fewer than 18 hours, the devastation they left in their path took many years to recover. It was harvest time, crops were being gathered, and fruit hung on the trees; suddenly an army descended on the Township. The soldiers plundered the countryside. They foraged for food, taking animals, crops, clothing, bedding, pots and tools. Although most Quakers, due to their religious belief of nonparticipation in war, did not claim war damages, their losses were recorded by the "Meeting for Sufferings." Others submitted claims that were recorded in the

Chester County Courthouse. From these records we can identify some of those who suffered.

Isaac Allen owned the tavern along Sheehan Road, right in the path of the soldiers. He reported a loss of 170 pounds,⁷ which probably accounted for the contents of his tavern. Isaac Miller's loss was 363 pounds. His stone house, on the east side of Newark Road, was along the nighttime march of the two British Brigades. James Miller lived along the Gap-Newport Pike (New Garden Road West) where he, too, was vulnerable to looting. He reported a loss of 85 pounds. The Hessian army camped on Andrew McIntire's farm and his reported loss was 41 pounds. Thomas Lamborn, whose farm is the present New Garden Park, suffered severely from depredations. Only because his brother, William, came to his rescue, did he avoid losing his farm to bankruptcy.



Isaac Miller House. (NG Historical Commission)

Unfortunately, collecting estimates of damages from the British soldiers was an effort in futility. No reparations were ever paid.⁸ New Garden residents took many years to recover and unfortunately, many never recovered the assets of former days. As in many communities through which armies marched during the Revolutionary War, the civilians, the noncombatants, were the ones who suffered.

⁷ A pound in 1777 would have had the buying power of 186 dollars in 2020.

⁸ According to the Treaty of Paris, neither side were responsible for reparations.

Future Aviator's Summer Camp 2021

New Garden Flying Field

Registration Information at www.newgardenflyingfield.com
or call 610-268-2619



July 12-16 Aug 9-13

AGES 7/8-15
M-F 9:00-3:00

Early drop off and late pick up available

\$375 per camper for 1 week
\$700 per camper for 2 weeks

"We are excited to offer the New Garden Flying Field Future Aviator's Day Camp this summer, as we know the fascination with flight often begins at a young age. We designed the camp to be a week of nonstop excitement where fun and discovery are combined for an unforgettable experience." *Jon Martin, Airport Manager*



NEW GARDEN
FLYING FIELD

FUTURE AVIATORS SUMMER CAMP

NOW REGISTERING FOR THIS SUMMER

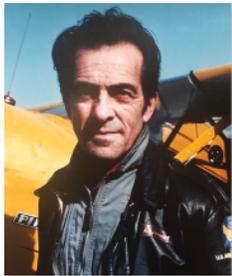
New Garden Flying Field offers young people the excitement and discovery of aviation in a day-camp setting, designed for ages 7-15. It's a week of non-stop excitement that includes five full days of hands-on aviation and science projects, challenging activities, museum and airport tours, and other aviation experiences.

Primary Activities:

- Airplane Construction- Learn about airplane construction including fabric, wood and metal.
- Aeromodeling- Design, build and fly balsa gliders and RC airplanes.
- Rocketry- Build and fly model rockets.
- Ground School- Learn the basics of pre-flight planning and navigation.
- Flight- Introductory flight with a Certified Flight Instructor. Receive a log book with your recorded flight time.
- Museum Tour- Day trip to the National Air and Space Museum.

Camp Registration available online WWW.NEWGARDENFLYINGFIELD.COM





FUTURE AVIATORS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Through generous donations we have established two financial scholarship programs, the **Joe Denest and Colonel David Martin Future Aviators Memorial Scholarship**. Both funds have been established to help financially assist families, sending their child to camp at New Garden Flying Field. Both Joe Denest and David Martin were strong believers in our Future Aviators Summer Program. Mr. Denest and Mr. Martin are dearly missed and we are honored to be able to offer these scholarships to continue on their legacy, helping families of our Future Aviators for years to come. For more information or an application please contact New Garden Airport, 610-268-2619.



Are Phorid Flies Bugging You?



Phorid Fly Action Committee (PFAC) Mission: To educate residents, government officials, and government agencies about the phorid fly. PFAC welcomes all residents who are suffering from this fly invasion of their homes. We support and take action in defense of our property; we offer and assist government agencies, state officials, community organizations, and academic research in the eradication of this infestation. Follow us on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/PhoridFlyCommunity/>

Link to Representative Sappey's January 2021 Webinar:

<https://www.pahouse.com/sappey/phoridflyinfo>

Press Releases/Penn State announces recent development to control phorid flies (2021):

[A Simple, Inexpensive Change Foils Mushroom Phorid Flies | Main Edition | lancasterfarming.com](#)

[Penn State entomologists devise a system to control mushroom phorid flies | Penn State University \(psu.edu\)](#)

[Scientists announce progress against Phorid fly scourge | Chester County Press](#)

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