



May  
2013

## MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE MONDAY, MAY 27, 2013—10:30 AM

*Arleigh Hegarty and John Mohl*

Over the past century more than 35 million men and women answered the call to arms in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Iraq and countless unnamed military engagements. More than half a million of them never came home. Some died in battle, others in captivity; all died too soon.

Recent military action in Afghanistan and Iraq has offered fresh reminders of the human reality of war: ordinary men and women leaving homes and families and all they know to risk their lives for an ideal of honor, or duty, or just to protect the soldier next to them. People of patriotism and goodwill may debate the merits of any given war, police action, or humanitarian mission. But there should be no debate about our debt to the hundreds of thousands of our citizens who have given the ultimate sacrifice of their lives heeding the nations' call to service.

Memorial Day is more than the start of summer. It is a chance to pause and remember the sacrifices – remember the gallantry and bravery – remember the fallen.

Each year residents of Elverson are invited to join in observing Memorial Day, a United States federal holiday that is observed on the last Monday of May (observed in 2013 on May 27). It was formerly known as Decoration Day. This holiday commemorates U.S. men and women who have died in military service to their country. It began first to honor Union soldiers who died during the American Civil War. After World War I, it was expanded to include those who died in any war or military action.

You are invited to meet at the Veteran's Memorial on Main Street (across from the Methodist Church), at 10:30 AM to honor the men and women who served in the military and are no longer with us. Some paid the supreme sacrifice during their time of service. Freedom is not free.

Our Memorial Day Service is not long, but it is significant and your participation as a community is greatly appreciated.



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**Submission Deadline is May 15th**

for the June issue to [brenda@stoltzfus.com](mailto:brenda@stoltzfus.com), 26 East Main Street  
or 610-286-5115. Remember to check out the newsletter *in full color* online at  
[www.elversonboro.org](http://www.elversonboro.org).

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ELVERSON BOROUGH?

*Jody Phillips*

**C**ongratulations to the seven Elversonianians who knew that the subject of the photo in the last *Elverson Borough Newsletter* is the outside deposit box at the old Elverson National Bank, which opened for business on October 2, 1915. This 30 x 30 foot building was constructed of black granite from a local quarry at a cost of \$3,682.65.

The Elverson Bank is almost 100 years old and is showing its age. In 1980 its doors were closed and its contents and staff moved to a new building at 83 West Main Street. The old building was boarded up and although it needs some repairs, it is architecturally sound and its terrazzo tile floors and green glazed Spanish tile roof are still impressive. And the brass deposit box looks as if it was just polished. The building is for sale and I hope that whoever buys it will restore it to its former glory

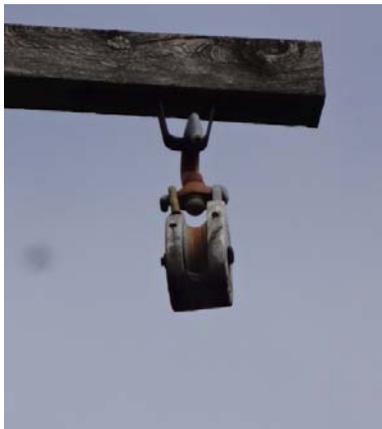
The first email I received with the correct answer was from Andy Peters, who has won a gift certificate from the Elverson Deli. The other six winning entries were from Jenny Carmody, Caleb Ober, Barbara Yocum, Judy Williams, Talia Rigg and Gloria Patry. Kevin has generously agreed to give each of these winners a free cup of coffee or a glass of Coke. While you are there, be sure to check out the menu posted behind the counter and perhaps have a bite to eat. Look around the room, as you might find something of interest to help you win another "How Well Do You Know Elverson Borough?" contest.

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*Do you know where this photo was taken?* Be the first one to correctly identify the picture and you will win a gift certificate to the Elverson Deli. Submit the correct answer within a week of the Newsletter publication date and you will win a free cup of coffee at the Elverson Deli. Enter by emailing [Jodysfritz@gmail.com](mailto:Jodysfritz@gmail.com).

Many thanks to Kevin, owner of the Elverson Deli, for his generosity in providing the prizes for this contest.

*Jody Phillips*



## ELVERSON EVENTS YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS

*Esther Prosser*

**MAIN STREET YARD SALE—SATURDAY, MAY 11**  
*8 am to 1 pm*—Set up a table on Main Street and make a few bucks or bring a few bucks and get some bargains. Rain date is May 18.

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MTG—TUESDAY, MAY 14**  
*7 pm at Hopewell Manor*—Join others interested in the future of Elverson. RSVP by emailing [lorrie@elversonboro.org](mailto:lorrie@elversonboro.org). Refreshments will be served.

**PRIMARY ELECTIONS—TUESDAY, MAY 21**  
*7 am to 8 pm at the Community Evangelical Free Church* Influence the direction of our town, state and country by placing your vote.

**THE FARMERS' MARKET AT ELVERSON**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 25**  
*9 am to 1 pm at the Livingood Park Gazebos*—Our weekly market begins with, as always, the best fruit, vegetables, cheese, meat, eggs and coffee you'll find anywhere. Yes, right here in Elverson.

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE—MONDAY, MAY 27**  
*10:30 am—Veterans Memorial on Main Street*—Begin the day remembering and honoring the men and women who served our country so that we can live free.

**ELVERSON DAY AT THE PARK**  
**SATURDAY, JUNE 22**  
*8:30 am at the Livingood Park* - 5K Run, 1 Mile Walk. Log onto [www.oneruntogether.org](http://www.oneruntogether.org) to register online. The Farmers' Market will be open from 9 am to 1 pm.  
*4 pm*—Children's activities (Pipper the clown, face painting, moon bounce, games), an Elverson Historical Wagon Ride, Twin Valley Fire Company softball tournament, musical groups concluding with the West Chester Concert Band at 7 pm. The day will end with fireworks beginning at dark. Rain date is Sunday, June 23.



## LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR

*Merle Stoltzfus*

**W**hile speaking with an Elverson resident this week, I learned he was soon moving to another home outside Elverson. This man has quietly served our community in various and many ways. When I expressed my sorrow about his leaving town, he shrugged and only expressed concern about one potential gap that he considered critical when he's gone. "I'm concerned about who will help my elderly neighbors take out their trash", he said. Helping weekly with their trash is something he has done for two different nearby neighbors for years.

Loving our neighbor is not a one time event. In fact, it's not an event at all. Considering the value and therefore the welfare of our neighbors over years and decades is an attitude that will sometimes feel like work. Yes, I was imagining a cold winter Monday night with two extra homes for which to take out the trash containers; of course bringing them back is also part of the routine. The man's concern about the void to be filled when he leaves town seemed valid. In our individualistic and self sufficient culture we tend to simply take care of our own business and expect the same of everyone else. Loving our neighbor is letting them alone; don't bother them.

But community consists first and foremost of relationships of love and respect between neighbors. Jesus himself said the second part of the one and greatest commandment is "to love our neighbor". To love our neighbor is not a conditional love that demands something in exchange. Instead, it's taking out the trash for years followed by being concerned about who will keep doing it when I leave.

So, as I thanked God for the example of the 80+ year old man who was moving out of town, I also was filled with appreciation for this exceptional community we call Elverson. And, my concerns for his neighbor's trash also diminished because I believe the remaining neighbors will follow this loving example and enjoy the opportunity to love the way he has. Yes, it's a good day when the greatest square mile proves out again!

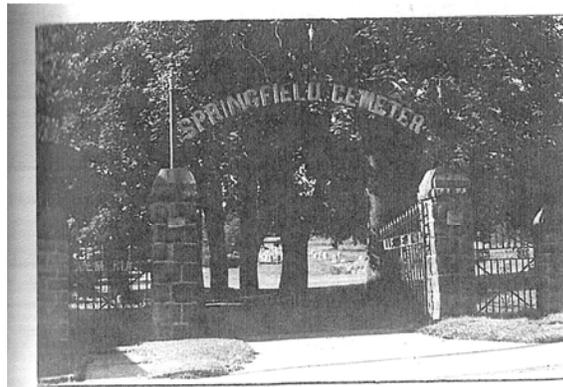
## THE CEMETERY GATE MYSTERY

### PART 1

*Bob Patry*

**T**he last picture of the Springfield Cemetery Gates was taken in 1976. The first picture taken, about 1902, is titled "The Everhart Gates". Who is Everhart? Were these gates of the Elverson Methodist Cemetery a memorial? To whom were the gates dedicated? How did they disappear? Where are the gates now?

How could a twenty foot-long, four-gates wide, wrought iron fence attached to four stone columns and topped with the words "Springfield Cemetery" spelled out with tall wrought iron letters, disappear while located on a busy highway?



In 1976 the cemetery of the Methodist Church still had its arch and gates, and the maples planted in the previous century had become huge.

Was there a police report? Was there a search? Is there a historical record? Caretakers and those with family buried in the cemetery can make assumptions of

what happened to the sign, but no one knows where the gates are today.

One theory is that a cement truck entering the cemetery to lay a tombstone foundation hit and tore down the gate. Another possibility is that a backhoe being carried on a flatbed trailer entered the cemetery with the shovel portion of the backhoe raised too high.

It would seem that the remnants of the sign would be too big and too heavy not to have been found immediately after any accident. Theft should be considered also. Did someone with knowledge of gate construction steal this expensive wrought iron?

Adding to the mystery is the fact that no one recalls what year the gates went missing or why the incident was not reported. Was a search ever made? Didn't anyone ask, "Where's the gate?" One day it was there, the next day, gone!



If you can shed light on our missing cemetery gates, email Bob at [bo100@ptd.net](mailto:bo100@ptd.net).

## WHAT DID THE BLACKSMITH LEAVE BEHIND?

*Bob Patry*

**A**fter World War II when blacksmiths closed their shops, they left bits and pieces of colonial and early America all over our landscape. All the work they did for farmers, tradesmen, housewives and travelling Wagoners are a treasure today.

The landscape today where the craftsmanship of the blacksmith can be found is our backyard, attic, basement or old garage. And if not there, the yard sale, garage sale, street sale or flea market, even the junkyard.

What did the blacksmith leave behind? He left his tools; the anvil, the forge, the firepot and bellows - collector items all. He left behind hand-forged household items like hinges, latches, knives and tongs. The list of things the blacksmith worked with hammer and tong over his fire is endless and valuable.

Look again! Look closely! Stop looking at the novelties, you Saturday morning bargain-hunting junkies! If it's old, made of metal, is rusty and looks like junk, then its worth a second look.

The blacksmith came to America with a heritage of one of the world's oldest crafts. He learned as an apprentice. His techniques were secret. He worked with iron and steel. He heated and twisted, hammered and tempered until that tong, spring, spoon or nail was admired for its quality, and the smithy was admired for his talent.

Now is the time to search, find and profit from what the blacksmith left behind. The trip hammer in the foundry and the nail factory of Luken's Steel reduced the number of blacksmiths. Industrialization put him out of business.

The good news is the blacksmith is back in business. We now have Historic Poole Forge Blacksmith Guild.



## OWEN J ROBERTS FRIENDS OF THE ARTS 2013 GARDEN TOUR

**Saturday, June 8th, from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM,** the Owen J. Roberts Friends of the Arts again will host a tour of local gardens. Harbingers of spring--birdsong, super sunshine and lots of spectacular rainbow-hued flowers metaphorically shout, "Come on--you don't want to miss this day!" Visitors will see a spacious historic site displaying four distinct sections which exhibit specimens rarely seen in area gardens. Do you enjoy the placid feeling one receives from watching swans swimming languidly in their small pond? Like to pick up tips on patio/container gardening? A noted sculptor exhibits his gardening expertise by placing various examples of his work throughout his garden. Two professional plants experts have exhibited and/or helped create artistic displays at the prestigious Philadelphia Flower Show. (Their names are indicated on the ticket/maps.)

On May 15th, maps costing \$10.00 each (Children ages 12 and under admitted FREE!) can be purchased at the following locations:

- ◆ OJR Admin. Bldg. - Routes 23 & 100 - Monday to Friday - school hours only
- ◆ Agway Garden Center & Agway Farm Store - Route 100 at Pughtown Road
- ◆ Ludwig's Corner Hardware - Routes 100 and 401
- ◆ Tacie's Cafe' & Bakery - (formerly Coventry Tea Room) - 1161 Ridge Road/Route 23
- ◆ The Bakery & Café at St. Peters Village - 3441 St Peters Road
- ◆ Paolo's Pizza - 2650 Ridge Road - Route 23 near 345
- ◆ Shear Heaven Hair Salon - 70 West Main Street - Elverson
- ◆ Clair's Family Restaurant - Main Street - Morgantown
- ◆ Saturday, June 8, from 8:30 to 11:30 only - outside the OJR Administration Building

Lunch may be purchased at St. Peter United Church of Christ Social Hall 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM - Restrooms Available - No Steps!

Garden Tour questions, please call **Peg at 610-286-9805 or Carol at 610-326-5301.** Pouring rain date: Sunday, June 9, same time.

By purchasing a ticket/map you will help needy children in our area to further their education. Thank You!

## SUMMER IS COMING

*Dorothy Bradshaw*

There's something about spring that makes me want to find occasion to brunch. A lazy Saturday morning? A lunch date with friends? Mother's day? All are perfect opportunities for incorporating an egg-centric dish into our menu. In the past few weeks, my kitchen has seen eggs fried, hard boiled, soft boiled, baked, scrambled, frittataed, atop a croque Madame, atop asparagus, atop a twice-baked potato, and finally in this fresh, summer-is-coming breakfast casserole, perfect for brunch.

This tasty dish is prepared in advance, and so is perfect for a stress-free spring brunch.

### *Sun Dried Tomato, Basil, and Goat Cheese Breakfast Casserole*

1 quart grape (or cherry) tomatoes, halved  
Olive oil  
Pinch of sugar, salt and pepper  
8 cups day-old French bread, cut into 1 inch cubes  
2/3 cup crumbled goat cheese (or a mix of goat cheese and cubed cream cheese)  
1/2 cup basil, julienned  
1 1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 1/4 teaspoon pepper  
9 eggs  
3 cups milk



*The day before:* Preheat the oven to 225. Arrange the halved tomatoes cut-side up on a baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle lightly with the sugar, salt and pepper. Bake the tomatoes for 3 to 3 1/2 hours. Chop the dried tomatoes. Butter a 9 x 13 inch casserole. Toss together the bread, chopped tomatoes, goat cheese, basil, salt and pepper until evenly distributed in the dish. In a small bowl, whisk together the milk and eggs. Pour evenly over the bread mixture, pressing down slightly on the bread so that each piece absorbs some of the liquid. Cover tightly and refrigerate overnight.

*In the morning:* Remove the casserole from the refrigerator and uncover. Preheat the oven to 350. Bake the casserole for about 40 to 50 minutes or until the middle is cooked (test with a knife) and the casserole is browned and puffed all over. Cut into squares.

*Dorothy can be found online with her food blog Belle of the Kitchen, [www.belleofthekitchen.blogspot.com](http://www.belleofthekitchen.blogspot.com).*

## SPRING CLEANING SAFETY TIPS

*Darryl Romig, TVFD Assistant Engineer*

The Spring fire season is upon us, We have gotten our trucks ready to go for the 2013 brush fire season and everything is in tip top shape to keep our community safe. We've sharpened our chains, checked our pulaskis, counted rakes and shovels. But keep in mind, YOU should be doing similar practices. Here are some spring cleaning safety tips to use around your homes and businesses;

- >Make sure your house is clearly marked with your address
- >Review your fire escape plan
- >Make sure all fire exits or escape routes that are identified in your fire escape drill are clear of any debris and are not blocked-off.
- >Check and clean your smoke alarm.
- >Check and clean your carbon monoxide alarm.
- >Check your fire extinguisher.
- >Make sure electrical outlets and extension cords are not overloaded.
- >Have air conditioning units and other electrical appliances checked by a licensed professional.
- >Clear your basement and attics from old papers, oily rags, and broken furniture.
- >Inspect your charcoal/gas grills.
- >Spread mulch at least a foot away from the house with a non-combustible barrier in between, such as rock.
- > Rake leaves away from your house to leave approx. 10 feet of clearance
- > Trim back any trees or bushes that may block a fire truck from gaining access to your property.
- >Finally, when you are finished spring cleaning make sure all cleaning products are stored in child safety latched drawers and cabinets with the original labels.

Seconds count when it comes to an emergency. Help us to help you.

### THANK YOU!

The Tree Commission would like to thank Main Street homeowners who removed the tree stakes from their newly planted street trees. Thanks also to residents Phil and Teri Tegtmeier and Keevil Johnston for removing the remaining stakes.

And thank you, Main Street residents, for sweeping the cinders off your sidewalks for the street sweeper.

*Our Main Street is looking good, thanks to you!*



## A SLICE OF LIFE IN ELVERSON—2013 THE FARMERS' MARKET AT ELVERSON

*Lynne T. Burkholder*

The 2013<sup>th</sup> Season of The Farmer's Market at Elverson opens on Memorial Day Weekend. The market will begin adhering to the regular market hours opening at 9 am and ending at 1 pm. This will happen every Saturday until the end of September, short and sweet and to the point and a great slice of life in Elverson. We are going into our fourth season and though this is not a quick, get rich scheme for the vendors, we all agree that we are part of something that goes beyond a wealth defined by currency; an opportunity that enables us to have direct contact with the customers while bringing an event to Elverson that calls for a significant weekly gathering called community.

The weekly gatherings at The Farmers' Market at Elverson have redefined Saturdays for us the vendors and you the customers. For the past four years we have come to market and are able to pick up some fresh fruits and vegetables. We enjoy excellent coffee while eating baked goods as we forget the calories. We stock up on great meat. We make sure we have our supply of fresh, delicious cheese, chicken or eggs. We often purchase some wonderfully smelling soaps, or the healthy and tasty granola, and sometimes a special gift from one or two of the monthly crafters.

However, the most significant part of the market is the interaction we have with one another. There are not many communities where on a Saturday you can go and be with each other for a bit of time. Some stay and eat their food at the picnic tables, some go down to the playground with their children after they shop, some before they shop. Some linger before they attack their day with a vengeance and some have already attacked their day and are now relaxing at the market. When I think of the market not being part of our family's routine I become sad. So, let's not think about that and instead focus on the 2013 Market Season.

We do have things to look forward to and here are a few of them. Slow and steady wins the race and it is no exception with the market. Big Cookie is a new vendor specializing in, guess what? Cookies. Aaron Brilliant (love the name) brought some to the March Market to sample. They were a hit! We have some produce vendors we are in communication with and some new farmers who are joining us when they have pheasant and quail eggs and meat ready to sell. We hope that Calvin and Esther Mae Kurtz will join us again informing the community of Woodland stewardship. Krystal Honey Candles will join us on a monthly basis. The candles smell wonderful and the prices are excellent. Jen Leighton also looks forward to joining us once a month with her exquisite terrariums.

Thanks to The Twin Valley Fire Station for hosting The Farmers' Market at Elverson during the winter months. In particular, thank you Ray Dymond for opening the room for us at the station each month. April 27 was our last monthly market. The weather cooperated, as usual, and we held the market at the Gazebos. It was a great weekend to see many of you.

We are excited for the second annual 5K Run in Elverson, June 22 at 8:30 am.. We are in need of groups that can provide water to the runners. This is a good opportunity to advertise while providing a well needed drink of fresh water. Would you like to be a sponsor for the event? If so your company's name would appear on the 5K Run in Elverson T-Shirts. If any of this interests you please contact us at [Lynne@lynneburkholder.com](mailto:Lynne@lynneburkholder.com)

There is more going on at [The Farmers' Market at Elverson](#). Please come and shop and enjoy a slice of life at the market for the 2013 Farmer's Market Season.

If you have any interest sharing your musical talent with the community at the market please contact us; [lynne@lynneburkholder.com](mailto:lynne@lynneburkholder.com).

### ELVERSON'S TROOP 37

Troop 37 will be selling flowers during the Main Street Yard Sale on Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>. The Troop will be set up at two different locations: one along Main Street and the other in Dr. Eck's parking lot. Troop 37 meets on Monday nights at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.



Boys between the ages of 11 and 17 are always welcome to join. The Troop will also be helping out at the Elverson Memorial Day Service on Memorial Day at the Elverson United Methodist Cemetery.

## SUPPORT ORPHANS IN BRAZIL



This summer, Paige Gibbons, a student at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA will be departing on a 3 week service trip to Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. She will be serving at an orphanage in Sao Paulo and is seeking donations (twin sheets and stuffed animals) for the children.

Please consider helping those in need through prayer and support. Donations will be collected by Debbie Gibbons at 2 Parkside Drive. They can be left in the box on the front porch of this address.

*Thanks for your support!*

OUR THANKS TO THE ELVERSON BUSINESSES BELOW WHO SUPPORT THIS NEWSLETTER. If you would like your business included, please contact Esther Prosser, [esther@stoltzfus.com](mailto:esther@stoltzfus.com). 484.269.7153.

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## **ELVERSON'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE**

**I**n March a Taskforce consisting of business owners, Borough residents, and Borough officials met for the first time to begin work on an update to the Elverson Borough Comprehensive Plan. The current Plan was adopted in 1995. For the update Elverson contracted with the Chester County Planning Commission through the Vision Partnership Program, which is providing a 70% in-kind match. The update is expected to take approximately twelve months to complete and, along with the input of the Taskforce members, will require public participation.



A Public Information Meeting for the Comprehensive Plan update will be held on **May 14, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Springfield Room at Hopewell Manor located at 58 E. Main St., Elverson**. Borough residents are encouraged to attend and participate. Parking is limited at Hopewell Manor; however, the Elverson United Methodist Church has agreed to allow us to use their parking lot for this meeting.

The Taskforce and Chester County Planning Commission will present an overview of the work program, the plan goals and objectives, and draft mapping. Attendees are encouraged to provide feedback on their vision for Elverson's future. Refreshments will be provided.

**If you plan to attend please RSVP with Lorrie Stolz (Borough Secretary) at [lorrie@elversonboro.org](mailto:lorrie@elversonboro.org).**