



March/April 2022

Beauty Matters

Mark Estes

Something I have always loved about Elverson is the small-town atmosphere. Most of us, particularly folks who have lived here many years, take pride in the efforts to keep our neighborhood not only safe and clean, but aesthetically lovely. Whether it's re-painting the old train station, keeping flower boxes along the street watered, or thinking deliberately about walking trails and tree-planting – Elverson has always boasted a charming, small-town feel. It's one reason we prize living here.

One of the most significant factors to any atmosphere is lighting. By nature, lighting either enhances or detracts. The Victorian lamp posts along Main Street are a perfect example of the charm lighting can add. They're attractive, warm, and inviting – exactly what a cozy rural neighborhood calls for.

The LED streetlights installed by PPL last fall, on the other hand, are out of character for Elverson. In my opinion, Elverson's small-town appeal was dealt a fatal blow literally overnight when these were installed. The LEDs are overly bright, sterile, and industrial. The juxtaposition between the two is particularly unpleasant as the blue LEDs tower over and engulf the soft warmth of the Victorian lamp posts. One belongs in a quiet neighborhood, the other in a factory or hospital parking lot.

While LEDs are undisputedly more cost-effective, they don't have to be ugly. They come in warm hues as well. It is somewhat disheartening that while we boast of Elverson as the

"greatest square mile in PA," this aesthetic decision doesn't meet that standard. If you're unsure of what I mean, take a stroll down South Pine Street into Summerfield after dark, then walk back up Main Street and compare the difference. You'll find Summerfield's lighting warm and welcoming, but Main Street's cold and garish.



Mark and his family in front of their home on Park Avenue.

Additionally, studies have shown that the blue light from LEDs makes sleeping problematic, and not just because they're so bright. These are the same hues that emit from your TV and phone, which is why we are warned against viewing screens in the same place that we sleep.

I realize not everyone shares the same aesthetic sensibilities, and what irritates one person may not bother another in the slightest. Doubtless some are fine with the lights or haven't even noticed the change. My point is simply this: beauty matters, particularly in a neighborhood that boasts of it. Yes, safety matters, too. But must attractiveness be sacrificed to maintain it? My intent is not to criticize but to encourage us to strive for both practicality and loveliness; they need not be mutually exclusive. I would love to see the new LEDs replaced with warmer bulbs that accurately echo the claim of our slogan.

Lastly, I want to thank those on Borough Council for their service to Elverson. My wife, children and I are lifetime residents of this neighborhood and constant beneficiaries of their work and leadership. I'm sure it is a thankless job, but we very much appreciate all that they do.



Comcast's Fiber-Rich Network Coming Soon to Elverson

Alexandra Wachman

Comcast will be expanding its smart, fast and reliable fiber-based network to Elverson in the coming months, delivering its full suite of services to homes and businesses, including residential broadband speeds up to 1.2 gigabits per second (Gbps) and business speeds up to 100 Gbps. Internet customers will also be able to save money on their wireless bills by signing up for Xfinity Mobile.

"We are looking forward to connecting more customers to our unbeatable Internet from Xfinity and Comcast Business products and services, including faster-than-Gig WiFi, Xfinity Mobile and X1," said Dennis Mathew, Senior Vice President, Comcast Freedom Region.

Comcast will keep Elverson residents and businesses informed about when services will be available at their addresses. The company also offers a dedicated site, www.welcome2xfinity.com for interested residents to learn more about products and services and to sign up for updates.

Residents can visit their local Xfinity Retail Store in Wyomissing, Pottstown or Exton to learn more about Xfinity products and services. Xfinity Stores have expert retail representatives that can help with product demonstrations and answer any questions about Gigabit Internet service, unique home WiFi control capabilities with xFi, the award-winning Xfinity X1 video platform, Xfinity Flex for streamers, Xfinity Home, Xfinity Voice and Xfinity Mobile. They can also help local businesses in scheduling an informational meeting with the Comcast Business sales team, which can describe its popular Security Edge service or how to get connected at Ethernet network speeds up to 100 Gbps.

"We, in Elverson, are thrilled to welcome Comcast to our town to provide residents and businesses with a choice when selecting their broadband provider," said Mayor Esther Prosser. "I see competition as good for Elverson, and Comcast will provide that, helping to make our greatest square mile a more attractive place to live and work."



Want to be a Captain?

Esther Prosser

We have openings! The Elverson Neighborhood Watch is looking for Captains. It's not a hard job but it is important. It involves contacting those on your street to let them know you are the Street Captain and should they see anything suspicious, to call the state police and then notify you. You will then post it on the Elverson Neighborhood Watch Block Captain Nextdoor page for other Captains to see. This social media page is only available for Captains. *It is exclusive to Captains, and you could be one of them.*

By posting it, we in Elverson are connecting dots so those up to no good in our town will be caught. Most recently, we have removed a dangerous dog who had been a repeated biting menace. We have found kids causing trouble from last year to be back at it, breaking in and vandalizing the Brick Lane Church and the Post Office.

One piece of the Neighborhood Watch that we have not resurrected is the patrol. In prior years, a patrol car was scheduled to make rounds at different times during the night hours. If this is something you would like to head up (as the Patrol Captain.), let me know.

We have streets that do not have Captains and a patrol that needs one as well. It's your chance to be a Captain – just call, text or email me - esther@stoltzfus.com, 484.269.7153.



Security Cameras Update—Tom Feeley

The installation of security cameras at the Livingood Park are scheduled for the week of March 20. At this time, we will be installing four cameras at strategic locations throughout the park. This will give us coverage of the gazebos, pavilion, library and the snack bar areas. We are also repairing the lights in the gazebos and pavilion. All electric outlets will have a secure cover placed over them. Anyone wishing to utilize them should contact the Borough Hall for instructions. We will be installing a protective barrier over the lighting to prevent any future vandalism. I will keep you abreast of phase 2 which will include motion cameras at borough hall as well as the train station area. As always, borough council is open to suggestions and ideas from our constituents. Our goal is to keep Elverson the "Jewel of Chester County."

Elverson-Honey Brook Area Emergency Services

Stephen Bobella

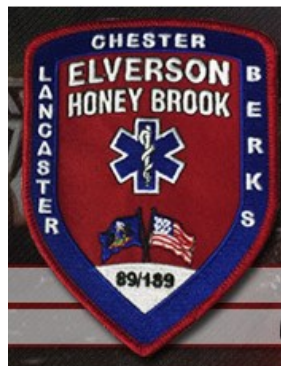
Elverson-Honey Brook Area Emergency Services (EHBEMS) continues to serve our communities working out of two stations in Elverson and Honey Brook. We take pride in providing those in our communities with the best EMS services possible. The staffing crisis that is having an effect on most of this country has not passed us by. We are actively recruiting quality providers at this time.

We are also experiencing some changes in operations due to the closure of Brandywine Hospital. The distance we must travel to other hospitals is greater and takes more time to complete the transport. There are also occasions where we must wait for an available bed at some facilities. This can increase the time it takes for our crews to get back into the area and be available for another call. Rest assured we are doing everything we can to minimize the time spent getting back to our area and are available for another call.

In addition to serving the medical needs of our community, EHBEMS proudly partners with area civic and religious organizations to fulfill our commitment to service. Last month, we coordinated a food drive with the Girl Scouts at our Elverson Station. Dozens of our neighborhood friends and neighbors arrived to contribute non-perishable food items to support the Honey Brook Food Pantry. They also purchased cookies from our hard-working young ladies. This summer, we again look forward to working with our friends at Anchored Ministries for their 5K race, followed by the festivities of Elverson Day.

In December, we are pleased to find ourselves working again with Anchored Ministries for our 3rd Annual Toy & Coat Drive. The Toy Drive directly benefits children within our school district, and over the past two years, our community has donated over 1,200 toys. The Coat Drive, coordinated by the Caernarvon Township Police Department, collects coats for adults and children within the Chester & Berks County areas.

If you would like to assist us in any of these programs or as an EMS provider, please see our website (www.ehbems.org) for more information or e-mail: membership@ehbems.org. To join our organization, please log onto our website and click on membership information.



Contentment (Kan-tent-ment) Noun

Merle Stoltzfus

The state of being happy and satisfied. (godliness with CONTENTMENT is great gain)

I had never before experienced a totally filled airplane in a flight out of Entebbe, Uganda. When boarding this flight, one of the approximately 200 identically clad young women already occupied my seat. When showing her the seat number on my boarding pass, it became obvious this traveler had never before been on an airplane. I guided her 17 rows front on the opposite side of the aircraft to her seat. It was evident that most of the other 199 were equally lost.

Promises of gainful employment in a middle eastern country, including free travel to their destination, convinced these Ugandan young people to sign a contract to give several years of their lives to earn and send money home to their families. As I watched their handlers, I became concerned; no, afraid for their well being. In search for a better life, these young ladies (or their parents) were trusting strangers.

Maybe my fears are unfounded. But, I had to wonder why well clothed and nourished young people would risk so much. But then, are they really different than any body else? Risking the status quo in search of something more is an urge inside all of us. It is related to the great American privilege we call freedom. Can a person really be content without the freedom to take risks?

But, when does a quest for more cross the line and become dangerous or even harmful? Simply existing is not ultimately satisfying or even virtuous. We could all be contented cave people. Is contentment really defined by reducing our ambitions? Why not just be content with the status quo?

We're all glad Pasteur had ambitions. But the world is currently reeling because Putin is not content. These are extremes of discontent separated by the line separating all ambitions, the line called godliness. This line is defined outside ourselves and so it must be. For we are blind to our own definition and the resulting devices. As I buckled my airplane seat, I was reminded to assess my own ambitions and then measure them at the line; that line outside myself.

Then, I prayed for these 200 new travelers; that their ambitions for opportunity and generosity to their families would be justly rewarded. Lastly, I prayed the ambitions of their handlers would equally be just, right and generous toward these families who trusted them with this most precious cargo; their children. May this be a Pasteur story; not Putin.

The Little Free Library

Jody Phillips



The Little Free Library at Livingood Park, located next to the playground near the Gazebos, is now comfortably full of books. In order to keep it this way, please do not jam books in the box. Place them carefully so that titles can be read easily. If the box is full, return another day or consider taking a few of the books in the box home with you to make room for your offerings. Please check your books before bringing them as family photographs have been discovered among the pages of the larger hard-cover books. Also, Do not drop off pamphlets or torn books. Text books also are not popular.

This box is checked about once a week. Children's books, mysteries, and romance novels are popular among Elverson readers. Thanks for your help in keeping our little free library a treasure for all those who love reading.

Trash Reminders—AJ Blosenski

The Elverson Borough has signed a contract with a new trash delivery company as of 2022—AJ Blosenski. With the change in haulers, there are some adjustments Elverson residents need to make:

- Recycling is now **every other week**, depending on where you live in Elverson. Outside of Summerfield is a different Tuesday than Summerfield. Log onto **elversonboro.org** and scroll to the bottom of the page for the recycling schedule and other important trash information.
- If you are using trash service, please contact AJ Blosenski to let them know so their database is accurate.
- If you are NOT using trash service, also contact them. Otherwise, you may be invoiced for services you are not using.

Becky Malcom (610.942.2707 ext 263) will answer your questions about service. Kathleen Malloy will answer your billing questions (610.942.2707 ext 230).

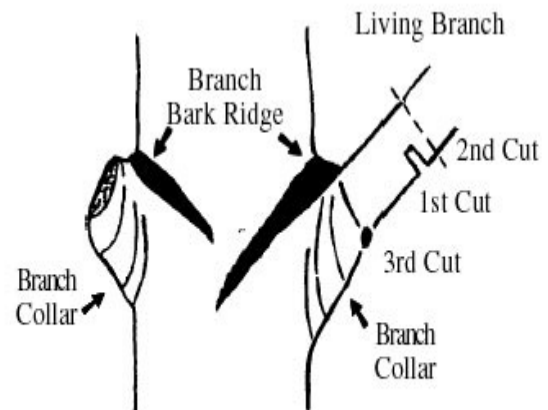
Tree Pruning: When and How

Herb Hamilton

It is agreed by arborists that the best time to prune trees is winter, November through March. The trees are dormant and less susceptible to insects and disease. But pruning in March may lead to the trees "bleeding," which is sap running from the cut. Do not worry, the tree will not die or be damaged from the sap loss. However, if the tree is over a sidewalk or patio, some sap will drip down onto those areas.

The next best time to prune trees is fall. In Elverson, we schedule pruning for fall. The benefit of pruning in the fall is it reduces the likelihood of sap running. It also allows for callouses to form more quickly.

Identify what branches are to be removed. Scaffold branches are the main branches, and the smaller branches are laterals. The pruning cut is made at the branch collar. This is where the branch joins the tree trunk. It is a swollen area of tree tissue that forms around the base of the branch where it connects to the trunk.



Branch bark ridge and branch collar

Make three cuts to remove larger branches. Make the first cut, cutting up into the branch, about one foot from the trunk. Stop when you have cut about a quarter of the way into the branch. Make the second cut, cutting down through the branch, about 2 inches beyond where the first cut was made. This allows for the branch to snap instead of tear as the weight of the branch pulls it down. The third cut is at the branch collar removing the stub that is left.

Proper tree pruning is not hard, but it takes practice. Smaller trees are easily tended by do-it-yourself homeowners. For larger trees, I recommend contacting a licensed arborist. Should you take it upon yourself, please be safe.

Happy gardening!



Dr. Leo McCormick
Dr. Darryl Hajduczek
Dr. Leslie Freeman
Dr. Connor McCormick

92 Kemp Road
Pottstown, PA 19465
(p) 610-705-0201
(f) 610-705-0180

83 W. Main Street
Elverson, PA 19520
(p) 610-286-7000
(f) 610-286-7003

www.mccormickchiro.com

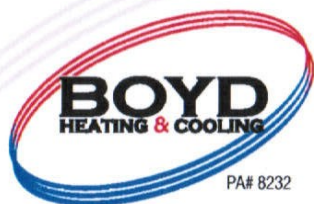
Simple-Smart Solutions

Simple-Smart Solutions for all your remodeling needs

Bill Gondy
610-310-7928



wjgondy@gmail.com
PA #057789



RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Sales • Service • Installation
Gas • Oil • Heat Pump • A/C

- Emergency Service
- Maintenance Contracts
- NATE & ICC Certified
- Professional and Dependable

610-286-5766

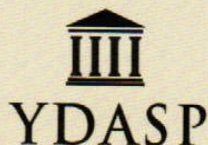
BOYD HEATING & COOLING, Inc. P.O. Box 483, Elverson, PA 19520
www.boydheatingandcooling.com



STOLTZFUS

REALTORS

610.286.5117
stoltzfusrealtors.com



YERGEY
DAYLOR
ALLEBACH
SCHEFFEY
PICARDI

JAMES D. SCHEFFEY
ATTORNEY AT LAW

50 S. Pine Street
PO Box 526
Elverson, PA 19520

610-286-0058 Fax 610-286-0068

jdscheffey@ydasp.com
www.ydasp.com

BRICK LANE SELF STORAGE

76 South Brick Lane
Elverson, PA 19520

8X20 storage units
610-286-9119

610.451.4367

13 CONSULTING LLC
ACCOUNTING AND CONSULTING

STEVEN M. FRANK, CPA/ABV
President

56 SADDLER DRIVE ELVERSON, PA 19520
"Make Your Own Luck" 13consultingllc@gmail.com



Integrated
Medical
Group, P.C.

Timothy J. Gill, MD

Board Certified Family & Sports Medicine

P: (610) 396-5163

23 N. Walnut St.
Boyertown, PA 19512

1555 Medical Dr.
Pottstown, PA 19464

45 S Pine St
Elverson, PA 19520

Send your Elverson news and stories to our editor at brenda@stoltzfus.com by May 10 or call her at 610.286.5115. Newsletters can be found on elversonboro.org.

**Elverson Borough
PO Box 206
Elverson PA 19520**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**PRST STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
READING, PA
PERMIT #415**



ELVERSON EVENTS



Street Sweeping Thursday, March 31st—All Borough streets

(S. Brick Lane, N and S Pine, Park Ave, Hall St, N Yeingst Dr, Parkside Dr, Main St, N and S Chestnut, Borough Hall and Livingood Parking lots). **Please park off street on this day, beginning at 7 am.**

Main Street Yard Sale—Saturday, May 21—8 am to 1 pm

Baked goods, hot dogs and drinks will be sold at the Heritage Center Parking lot at 21 S Pine St. If you live along Main Street or know someone who does, it's a great time to set up and sell. If you need a Main Street spot, contact Esther—esther@stoltzfus.com.



Memorial Day Observance—Monday, May 30—10:30 am

This annual Elverson event is a great way to begin the holiday, remembering those who fought for our freedom. We meet on Main Street at the Elverson Cemetery (across from the Elverson Methodist Church).



Elverson Day at the Park—Saturday, June 25—Livingood Park

The day will begin at 9 am with a 5K Run sponsored by Anchored Ministries. Festivities (music, children's activities, fireworks) will start at 5 pm. The rain date is June 26.