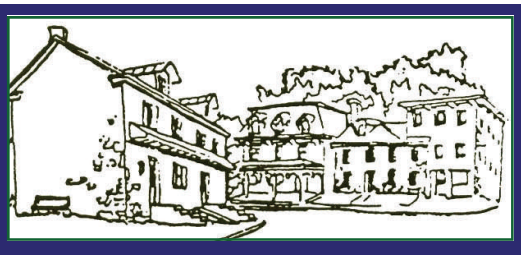
Elverson Borough Newsletter



September 2014

Bob Cook to Receive Elverson Borough Cane

Jody Phillips

Robert E. Cook has been determined to be the oldest resident of Elverson Borough and will receive the Elverson Borough Cane in a brief ceremony on Sunday, October 26, at 3 pm at the Twin Valley Fire Department. He will be 89 years young that day and has lived in the borough his entire life.

Bob was born on October 24, 1925 in the double house at 20 Hall Street. Bob's parents, George R. and Ruth, lived in the south side of the house while his father's sister Esther and her husband Howard Rapp lived in the north side. Since Bob had four siblings (George H., Esther, Kenneth and Walter) and the Rapp family also included five children, Bob grew up in a busy household.

After graduating from Bucknell University in 1948, Bob returned to his hometown and went to work at the family business, which was then called Robert Cook and Sons. (In 1955, the name of the store changed to Elverson Supply.) He married his high school sweetheart, Ruth Filmore, right after graduation. They settled in Elverson where they raised four children - James R., Robert R., Nancy M. and David B.

As a young man, Bob was quite active in the community, serving as Boy Scout leader, school director and Borough Council President. His home since 1964 has been the spacious, two-story brick house right next to Elverson Supply Company, which Bob's grandfather Robert and father George founded in 1920. Bob has been involved in this business his entire life. Bob's sons are co-owners of Elverson Supply Company, which has evolved from a feed mill to a hardware store carrying hardware, landscaping supplies and lumber. One of their three grandchildren, Jeff Cook, also helps out at the store so that on some days you might see four generations of Cooks behind the desk. They have three other grandchildren - Kelly Cioffi, Elizabeth Lyons and William Cook, and one great grandson, Cooper, who is two.

Bob's life has been rich and although his occupation is one of store owner and manager, his avocation and passion is ornithology – the study, photography and enjoyment of birds. Bob's hobby as taken him all over the world and he has visited every state in the USA except Oklahoma and Hawaii. He has an extensive library and loves to read.

He is a member of the Tri-County Heritage Association, Pennsylvania Birds, the Pennsylvania Society of Ornithology, the Baird Ornithological Society, the West Chester Bird Club, the American Birding Association, the Hawk Mountain Association and the National Audubon Society. He still travels locally and is looking forward to a possible trip to Chincoteague Island and to Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge on the Delaware Bay. He is a talented bird caller and has called birds and other animals with a unique squeaking sound that mimics an animal in distress. He told me that he once called a grizzly bear who ended up getting a little too close for comfort and that a screech owl has landed on his head.

When I asked Bob what he felt contributed to his long life, he immediately, turned to his wife Ruth of 66 years, put his arm around her waist and said, smiling, "Her!" He then added that having a hobby helped, as did working hard and never smoking. Ruth agreed, stating that he was a relaxed person and didn't let stress bother him.

Bob said he felt honored to be receiving the cane and hoped he would hold it for many years. I think he probably will. After all, his mother lived to be almost 102.

ASCOT HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
MILITARY VETERANS COMMUNITY GIFT DRIVE

The Ascot Homeowners Social Committee will once again host a Christmas gift drive for the residents and patients at the Coatesville V.A. Medical Center as well as for indigent residents in Chester County. In past years, Summerfield and the Borough of Elverson residents have been very generous with their gift giving for our military veterans who otherwise may be forgotten. This year we will partner with Elverson area residents, local businesses and Transportation Management Association of Chester County (TMACC) and their membership community in a gift drive to help our military veterans, seniors and individuals in the mental health community.

Gift requests in the past have been items many of us take for granted. To the individuals in need, these items are true luxuries. If you would like to donate, please contact Betty Shaw @ 610-286-0758 or bettyshaw@reagan.com for a list of gift suggestions and where to deliver the items for collection.

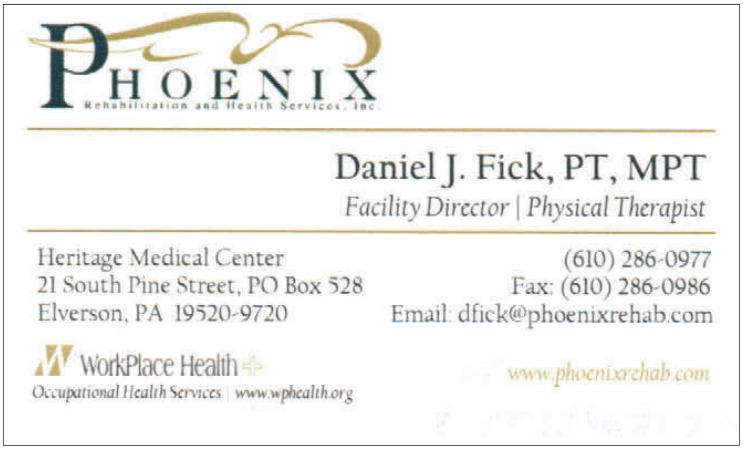
We would like to have all gifts received no later than December 14, 2014 so delivery to the V.A. and other areas in the county can be made in a timely manner. Please think of these needs as you shop for school and Christmas items.

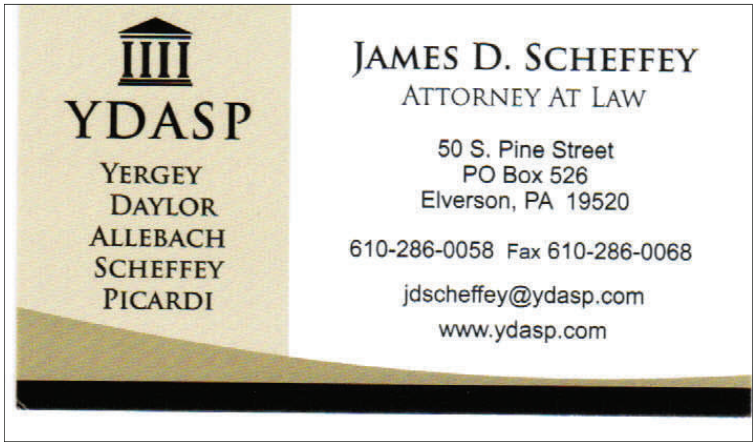
This year we hope to fill a Coatesville Link bus with gifts and deliver these treasures to a very surprised group of very needy folks. Please help us show our Veterans that they hold a special place in our hearts.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call and once again thank you so much for helping to make this holiday season special.

SUGGESTED GIFT ITEMS

- Refreshment supplies – snacks – sodas – cookies – candy (regular & diabetic)
- Television for patients – small televisions for patient's room
- Recreational activities – board games – deck of cards – hand held electronic games
- New underwear, for both men and women (Depends)
- New socks and t-shirts, for men and women
- Slippers, men and women
- New clothing – sweaters, shirts, pajamas, nightgowns, bathrobes, sweat suits, sweatshirts
- Stamps - stationary - notecards
- Telephone cards
- Microwave oven and DVD players are greatly appreciated
- Talking dolls for Alzheimer's patients
- Puzzles
- Electric razors
- Watches – jewelry, earrings, necklaces
- Radios & CD players
- Sheets – comforters – blankets - pillows
- Pictures – picture frames
- Themed Calendars (sports, flowers, animals)
- Coatesville Link & Krapf bus passes
- Toiletries – body washes, lotions, toothpaste, shaving cream, toothbrushes, dental floss, shampoo, conditioners
- Books – crossword puzzles – book tapes
- Art supplies – paint – canvas – drawing pads – stencils – brushes
- Sewing – knitting needles – yarn – embroidery – cross stitch kits





FILMING "NATURAL SELECTION"

Cookie Onushko

On Sunday, July 20th, I received a phone call from Pam Landis inviting me to go to Twin Valley High School on Monday. Her twenty-seven year old son Chad was making a movie and it was the last day of a ten day shoot at the school.

Our son Peter's Monday play group plays Hand and Foot, a card game similar to Canasta, from 1-4 PM so I got to the school after 4:00. Some guys showed me where they were filming in the library and I was met by Pam. I was quiet and stayed out of the way and took a bunch of behind-the-scenes pictures.

Pam introduced me to the three young actors and to her son Chad, the writer and director of the film. He's a 2005 graduate of Twin Valley. They were shooting one scene in the library and did a lot of different takes. You'll see two people on screen but there's a half dozen people off screen just feet away from the action. After the library scene, they set up and shot scenes in the computer room just off the library.

Last year I was able to take pictures when the movie "The Suspect" was being filmed in Elverson. I'm glad and thankful Pam offered me the opportunity to have another fun adventure. It's nice to know we have such talented and creative people living in and around our little town of Elverson.

Mason Dye—"Tyler Evans"

Ryan Munzert—"Indrid Wardin"

ABOUT THE FILM

The film follows Tyler, an innocent teenager struggling to find acceptance as he searches for his place in the world. Starting a fresh chapter in his life, he relocates to a small town just in time to start his senior year. When Paige - the lovely, popular beacon of light - takes a liking to the new kid in school, the jocks that run the place retaliate by making Tyler's life a living hell. Ray Stevenson, the school security officer with a troubled past, works to keep the peace. Indrid - intelligent and outspoken with a clear disdain for how the school operates and a strategy to shift the balance of power - provides protection by taking Tyler under his wing. At first, Tyler welcomes Indrid's friendship and guidance. Indrid is handsome, charismatic and manipulative. Leveraging Tyler's trust and vulnerability, he shapes Tyler's viewpoint and makes him a co-conspirator in Indrid's dark and violent plan. Inspired by Paige, guided by Stevenson and propelled by a deeply buried inner hopefulness, Tyler triumphantly turns the tables on everyone.

Natural Selection was written and will be directed by first-time feature filmmaker Chad Scheifele and it is an outgrowth of his award-winning short film of the same name. The short had a successful festival run and after receiving a great response at its 2013 South by Southwest Festival screening, Chad extended the short into a feature script. Chad has written and directed several short films and music videos and was co-producer of a feature film. *Natural Selection* is being produced by Pam Landis, Mary Jo Barthmaier and Stuart Connelly of Modoc Spring whose last feature - *The Suspect* - is being distributed throughout NA by Image Entertainment and has been licensed in more than 30 countries.

Elverson native and film director—Chad Scheifele

For more information, contact Pam Landis at 610-329-9637.

Elverson Fitness Club Opens

Jody Phillips

The Elverson Fitness Club, located at 51 South Pine Street, opened its doors on Saturday, August 9th to a crowd of local fitness buffs of all ages.

Ever since Twin Valley Family Fitness abruptly closed its doors last March, the Elverson community has eagerly been looking forward to once again having a fitness center in the borough.

Many say the wait was worth it. Totally refurbished from its shiny windows to its dirt-free, polished floors, the interior of the building gleams. Brand new state-of-the art TVs and a spacious interior coupled by familiar, friendly faces behind the desk all say "Welcome".

Stop by today and check it out. Your first visit is free.

ELVERSON HALLOWEEN PARADE

Esther Prosser

We have begun planning for this year's parade scheduled for Wednesday, October 15 at 7 pm. Our theme is **Down on the Farm**. If you would like to help with planning or are interested in registering, contact me (484.269.7153, esther@stoltzfus.com). Our annual raffle helps support our parade. Congratulations to this year's winners:

♦ 1st Place	Don Frey	$55.00
♦ 2nd Place	Wallace & Wolitarsky Dental Associates	$40.00
♦ 3rd Place	Logan Haak	$25.00
♦ 4th Place	Barbara Baillie	$20.00
♦ 5th Place	Marita Scheibe	$15.00

Send your Elverson news and stories to our editor at brenda@stoltzfus.com by October 15 or call her at 610.286.5115. Newsletters can be found on our Borough website—www.elversonboro.org.

How Well Do You Know Elverson Borough?

Jody Phillips

When I announced that last month's mystery photo would be easy to identify, I was hoping for a lot of correct answers and wasn't disappointed. Eleven Elverson residents knew that the picture of the lovely wooden footbridge was taken at the intersection of Brick Lane and Stable Drive. Ruth Cook drew the name of the lucky person who has won the grand prize of a scoop of mulch from Elverson Supply and the winner is Sarah Bland Haluko. Congratulations! Runners-up who have won a package of five leaf bags from Elverson Supply are Colleen Biffen, Sue Bird, Sarah DiGrullo, Dave Gey, Clyde Godschall, John Mohl, George and Mary Summer, Teri Tegtmeier, Elaine Walbach and Sandra Young.

This month's picture should be much harder to identify. The contest also has a new sponsor – the newly reopened Elverson Fitness Club on South Pine Street. The fitness club will offer each grand prize winner two free passes for an exercise session at the club and all runners-up will win one free session.

The newly remodeled fitness center is scheduling most of the classes that former members have enjoyed in the past in a refurbished building staffed by some of the same friendly people who served you last winter. You can purchase a free pass for $5 anytime - or enter this contest and use your sharp eyes to win one. (And you'll learn about your hometown as you look.)

Now to this month's photo. Identify the exact location of the window. I would recommend looking for it on foot as it might be difficult to see from a vehicle.

Email me with your answer by writing to Jodysfritz@gmail.com or call me at 610-286-8913. If you call, please tell me the date and time that you call as my message machine does not record that information and I need to know whether you have submitted your answer before the deadline. Because this photo might be difficult to identify, I am extending the time period for eligibility for the grand prize drawing to four days after the newsletters are placed in mailboxes. Correct answers received by September 15 will still win a runner-up prize.

Good luck and stop by the Elverson Fitness Club to check out the prize you could win.

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

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Someone has the foresight, to sow,
A bag of seeds in the nearby field. And…
Season by Season they keep coming back,

Year upon Year.
Some years are better than others.
Then one day,

The sun is high in the blue CAVU sky,
And every Face in the Field is turned,
Toward the arcing, Radiant Glow.

The brilliant heat brings out,
The casual Butterfly
And the industrious Bee.

Light, Shadow, Texture.
Color, Shape and Depth.
Framed by Corn Tassels.

And in an instant,
The shutter snaps.
There it is,

A KEEPER….

Photos and poem by Seawolf