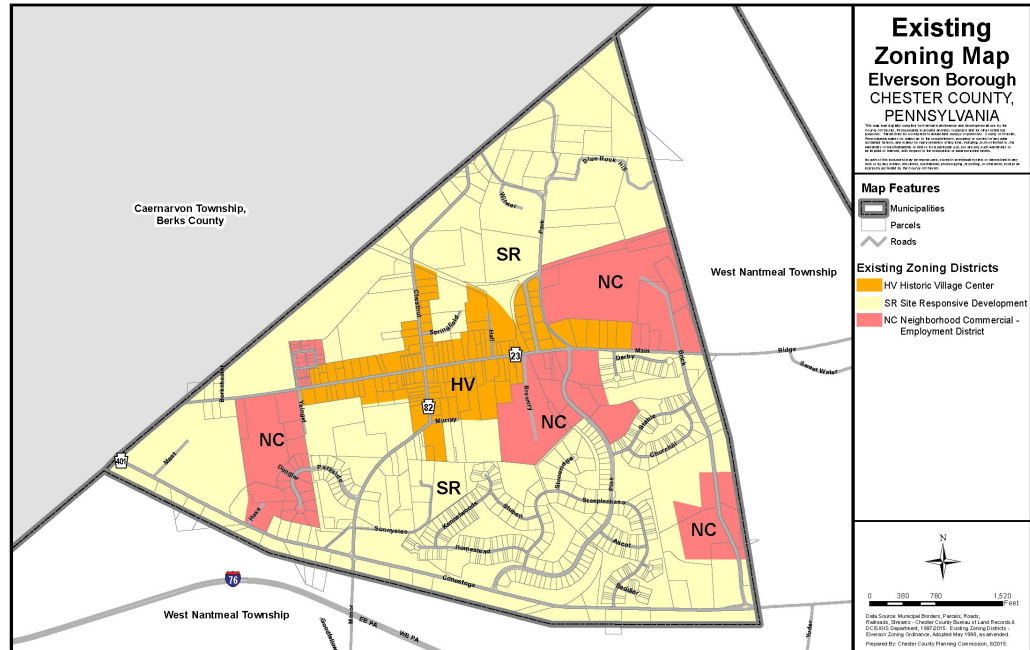




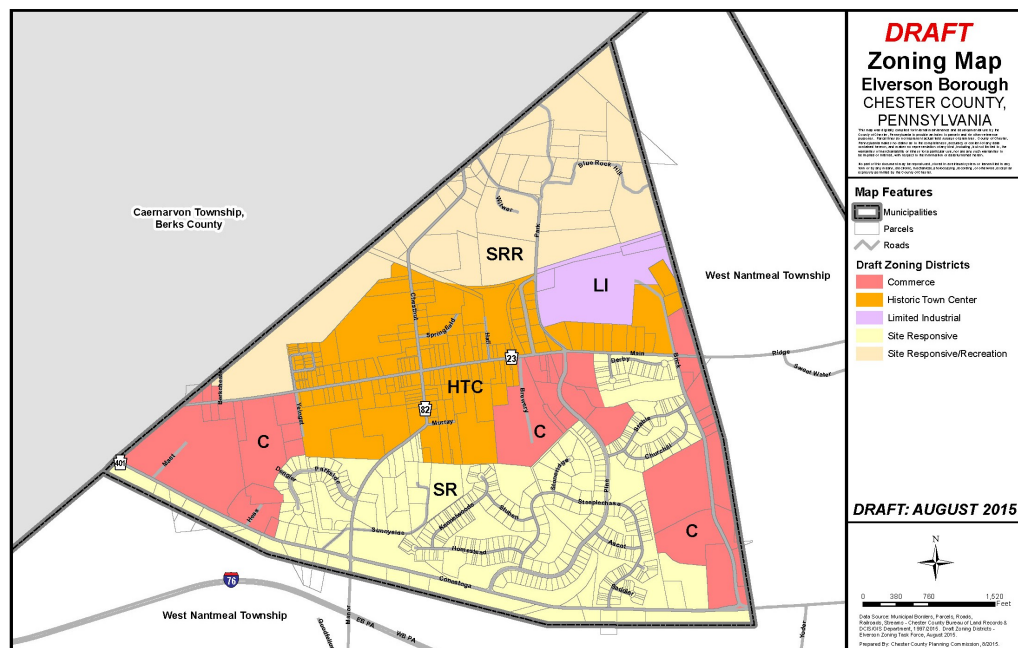
## September 2015

### PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING TO ADDRESS ZONING ORDINANCES



The Borough of Elverson has initiated a process to update its land use ordinances following the adoption of an updated Comprehensive Plan in 2014.

A public information meeting will be held **Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at Hopewell Manor from 7pm to 9pm** to present an overview of the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance and solicit input from residents and businesses.



# ELECTRIC ADVERTISING BILLBOARDS

Dan Keefe

**F**orty-one Summerfield homeowners signed a petition for relief from those electric advertising billboards on the PA Turnpike and presented it to the West Nantmeal Township Commissioners. This is a summary of the petition and the commissioners' response to it.

Excerpt from the petition: "...A major reason we bought homes in Summerfield was the beauty of the view to the south – spreading farmlands, rolling tree covered hills in the distance, a bucolic used- not-abused landscape. But since we've moved in, ELECTRIC ADVERTISING BILLBOARDS have happened. Huge, brightly lit ones, on the land bordering the turnpike, and facing our homes. What had at night been peaceful darkness with sparkled pinpoints of light has become a polluted atmosphere of all-enveloping brightness."

On Monday, Aug 3, we met with the West Nantmeal Township supervisors. They were well prepared for us. They had read our petition, and had verified our complaint for themselves by visiting the cul-de-sac at the end of Homestead Drive during the night. They saw what we

see.

One of the commissioners in fact said (unprompted) that dimming as a possible resolution had occurred to him at that time. Another one complained about the trucking company's night lights. Overall, they seemed receptive to our suggestions of dimming the lights at night, either by reducing the total candlepower or confining the nighttime display to less bright lights, such as reds and blues. Unfortunately the billboards conform to West Nantmeal's billboard ordinance, and so it is doubtful that they will give us any relief.

In summary, they are aware of our concerns about the billboards and not unsympathetic to them. They seemed to take our concerns seriously which we appreciated.

We plan to attend Elverson's Council meeting this month in order to gain their support. If you have questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact me—610.913.0399 or [djkeefe@aol.com](mailto:djkeefe@aol.com).



## ELVERSON HALLOWEEN PARADE RAFFLE WINNERS

Our thanks to those who purchased raffle tickets in support of our 2015 Elverson Halloween Parade. The following are raffle ticket winners:

**1st** - Dr. Scott Wallace; ticket drawn by Dalton Butler from Claire's Family Restaurant

**2nd** - Alan Dzugan; ticket drawn by Roseann Thomas of A2A Vacuum Services

**3rd** - Sharon Andrien; ticket drawn by Rick Diehm of Delong's Exxon

**4th** - Gerri Reppert; ticket drawn by Theresa Moyer of Joanna Store

**5th** - Merle Smith; ticket drawn by Ellie Naugle of Joanna Store

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## ELVERSON NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH – A WARNING ABOUT YOUR COMPUTER

Jay Fetterman

**W**e've read news on hackers who stole Social Security numbers and other data from more than 21 million people out of U.S. government computer systems. And now, we're hearing more about something called "ransomware", the latest cyber scam that involves trying to extort money from individuals and business owners by infecting and taking control of the victim's computer.

Ransomware isn't just a great plot for a TV series, such as one used several months ago on "The Good Wife" on CBS. It's a real life threat for individuals and some businesses. It's one more reminder why you need to back up files and should never click on links, open attachments or visit websites if you're uncertain of their origin.

Basically, the scam artists hold your data, your photos, your music, your other computer files hostage until you pay up.

For individuals, the troubles can start if you download free movies or click on attachments. Hackers can use social engineering to pretend to be someone on your contact list or they can pretend to be from a

legitimate company, such as the local utility.

So if you see a site that offers "free" games or movies or access to stolen "Game of Thrones" TV episodes or some super but suspicious bargains for shoppers, it might be a good idea to avoid clicking. The malware goes through the files, finds what's valuable and then the victim's files become encrypted. Once that happens, the consumer or organization is notified and a ransom is demanded.

If there aren't backup files, the only options for companies or consumers are to "pay the extortionist or kiss their files goodbye."

Other tips: Update the software that you've installed. If you didn't go looking for some antivirus software, do not install something that comes to you via email. Experts say be sure to prevent pop ups from automatically coming on your screen so you don't accidentally click on them

Always back up the content on your computer. If you back up, verify, and maintain offline copies of your personal and application data, ransomware scams will have limited impact on you.



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## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ELVERSON BOROUGH?

*Jody Phillips*

The unusual, octagonal window pictured in last month's newsletter is on the second story of the west side of a stately tan stucco house located at 62 West Main Street. The house was built in 1897 and belonged to Israel Finger, who was a cabinet maker. The current inhabitant of this historic home, John Lakeman, has found a unique (but definitely not historic) way to prop open this small window. He has resided in this lovely historic home for 34 years and John has done a lot of restoration work on it. Many thanks to Jim Berhle, who provided me with this information. Jim has won an Elverson Day tee shirt for correctly identifying this window.

For those of you who were curious about the item propping up the window, close examination of the photo shows that it is a wooden sign bearing the words "M is for Mom, not Maid."

September's photo is another dwelling – of sorts. Its inhabitants moved in without an occupancy permit and certainly are not welcome. Please tell me where this mud wasp nest is located. You can see it from a public way. Just don't get too close.

Again, contact me at [jodysfritz@gmail.com](mailto:jodysfritz@gmail.com) or 610-286-8913 if you know. The property owners have assured me that they will not remove the nest until after September 15, which is the deadline for submission of your answer. There will be no drawing this month. All who guess correctly will win a tee shirt.

Anyone who wants to purchase a shirt may do so. The cost is only \$5 and most adult sizes are available in orange, yellow and blue. Contact me for more information.



## HOW HIGH IS THE CORN?

These cornstalks, photographed recently in the cornfield next to Sunnyside Drive, just off South Chestnut Street, could indeed be as high as an elephant's eye. Their height appears to be about nine feet, judging from the height of the photographer.



This corn appears to be "cow corn," which unlike sweet corn is not very tasty to humans. But ground into silage, it will soon fill nearby silos to be fed to cattle during the winter months.

## OUR PARADE

*Esther Prosser*

It's the fall which means parade time in Elverson. The Elverson Halloween Parade is a town tradition, always scheduled for the third Wednesday evening in October. This year's parade date is **Wednesday, October 21 beginning at 7 pm**. The rain date (which we relied on last year) is the next evening.

All are invited to register. We enjoy a wide variety of entries —bands, businesses, scout troops, politicians, private individuals. Our theme this year is *Planes, Trains and Automobiles*.

If you would like a registration form, please contact me—[esther@stoltzfus.com](mailto:esther@stoltzfus.com) or 484.269.7153. I hope to see you on Main Street the evening of October 21.

## IMPORTANT ELVERSON EVENTS

### Public Information Meeting

Tuesday, September 8  
7 to 9 pm Hopewell Manor

### Elverson Halloween Parade

Wednesday, October 21  
7 pm Main Street



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

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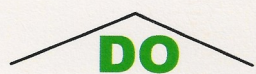
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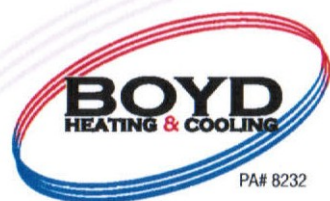
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**Rob Fischer Sr. and Rob Fischer Jr.**

**OUR THANKS TO THE BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORT THIS NEWSLETTER.**

If you would like your business included, please contact Esther Prosser, [esther@stoltzfus.con](mailto:esther@stoltzfus.con), 484.269.7153.



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## ELVERSON SUNRISE AND SUNSET



*Photos compliments of Seawolf*



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