



May  
2016



## FROM THE BOROUGH SECRETARY'S DESK

*Lori Kolb*

This month marks my second year anniversary as the Secretary for Elverson Borough. It has been a journey of learning many new administrative duties within the Borough Office. I have enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with so many of the residents from this friendly town.

After having worked with seven Council Members and the Mayor of Elverson Borough for these past two years, I have realized that, in addition to working together as a Council, they each help to serve the community with their individual expertise. Some examples of the experience these volunteer leaders bring to the Borough are Engineering, Project Management, Technology, Teaching, Real Estate, Construction, Administration and Finance. The residents of Elverson are fortunate to have such a diverse group of dedicated professionals representing the Borough.

If you have had the opportunity to drive by the Borough Hall building, you may have noticed we have been working on some updates and maintenance work. This work has included the installation of a new roof, exterior doors, window trim/sills, new furnace, interior wall repairs and paint. The next step will be to refinish the existing wood

floors. Once the work is completed, the South side of the building will remain as offices and the Council meeting space. The North side of the building will be used as a Community meeting room, as well as a place to display artifacts from the Elverson area. Some lovely antiques from this area have been donated to begin this exhibit. It is the intent of Council to host an open house so everyone can see how the building has been transformed. It is at that time, we will also welcome back the Boy Scouts to the improved meeting space.



Borough Hall— 101 South Chestnut Street

Elverson is a community of people who have come from near and far to settle here bringing with them a variety of different backgrounds, skills and life experiences. I have been privileged to meet many of you, who have

shared information about yourselves as well as the town. Elverson has become a great place for me to work.

Please take a few minutes to stop by and introduce yourself one of these nice spring or summer days! I am usually here during open hours which are Monday through Thursday from 9 am to 3 pm.

## OLDER IS BETTER

*Merle Stoltzfus*

Young is better? All of us at least pretend to love little babies; so cute! Their apparent innocence and utter dependence on us is what gives this instant attraction. But helplessness quickly gets tiring and if God hadn't created a maternal instinct, few of us would have survived our first year.

There's a significant distortion of the facts in our continual struggle to defy age and stay young. When young ourselves, humans constantly struggled to be and act older than they actually are; why make-up on pre-teens? If real, Ponce de Leon's grandiose fountain of youth discovery would have doomed the entire western world. Imagine an entire nation of teenagers. Then again, maybe this isn't something we need work hard to imagine.

So, exactly what is so desirous about youth? What about immaturity, inexperience and dependency are attractive? Or, what lure is there in being older? What 3 year old should want to start school or 10 year old want to be a teenager? Why would a teenager want to be an adult? What about youth struggles to be older and at what age do we cross the line and begin to look back? Where exactly is the top of the hill? What within us denies the reality of who we actually are and resists the contentment of today?

Living through six decades lends me the advantage of already having experienced these wannabes. The discontentment we experience is mostly physical (visual), based in a time bound world void of an eternal perspective. Hollywood makes millions mired in this faulty perspective.

At the end of his life, an experienced teacher said, "Godliness with contentment is great gain. For we brought nothing into the world, and we can take nothing out of it." (1 Tim. 6:6). Understanding how to be content in the time and place we are today is akin to continually living at the top of the hill. Learning contentment comes through the experience of seeing life rightly framed within eternity. Climbing the hill of life is easier and over the hill never happens when contentment is gained through experience. This is why most cultures in the world honor and respect age, esteeming older people. This is why in the real world, "Older is Better."

"When young I was full of life, but now my life is fuller." Bob McKemey

## HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW ELVERSON BOROUGH?

*Jody Phillips*

I was surprised that no one called me with the identity of the Elverson home pictured in the last Newsletter. I thought that the old shutter with the decorative



shutter dog holding it in place would be easy to spot, especially by the home's owners and neighbors. So, I decided to rerun the picture with more of the exterior of the house showing (which I had thought would give away its location) and tell you that the paint peeling off on the shutter is burgundy. Walk or drive around the borough again and look more closely. If you find the shutter, contact me at 601-286-8913 or email me at [jodysfritz@gmail.com](mailto:jodysfritz@gmail.com) by May 15 and you will win an Elverson tee shirt.

## SAYING GOODBYE TO OUR COURTS

*Esther Prosser*

If you've traveled south on route 82 recently, you've probably wondered what's happened to the Livingood Park tennis courts. Yes, they're gone. It wasn't easy for Council to agree to their removal but the estimated \$70,000 it would take to replace them simply wasn't in our \$300,000 annual budget. If you're a tennis enthusiast, you can continue to play by traveling a few miles south to the West Nantmeal Park or west to the Twin Valley High School.

I love tennis so this was a hard decision for me personally. But, as the courts deteriorated, the decision to

take them down or spend money we didn't have to renovate them properly had to be made. Sadly, the unanimous vote around the table was to remove them.

We would love a committee of Borough residents interested in working together as a group invested in our Livingood Park, forming a Parks & Recreation Committee. If you would like to be involved or have questions, please contact me—

**[esther@stoltzfus.com](mailto:esther@stoltzfus.com),  
484.269.7153.**



Livingood Park Tennis Courts Removal

# THE BRANDYWINE BRANCH DISTILLERY IN ELVERSON

*Esther Prosser*

For many years, Riannon Walsh advised craft distillers and independent bottlers around the world on all things spirits, from blending and cask selection to marketing and brand management. And now, Riannon is bringing her worldly whisky and spirits knowledge to Elverson. She is opening Brandywine Branch Distillers on the western edge of Warwick Township in what the locals call “the hippy barn.” Traveling east on Route 23, this restored barn is on the left very soon after crossing into Warwick Township at 350 Warwick Road, Elverson.



When Brandywine Branch Distillery opens, their primary portfolio will include four grain-to-bottle handcrafted gins, all very complex like a whisky, that will be great for cocktails or just sipping on their own. In the future, they will be crafting bourbon, rye and single-malt whisky.

After a tour and time in the speakeasy/cafe, guests can explore the property’s eight acres and stroll through orchards, hives and herb, flower, spice and botanical gardens to see the spirits’ ingredients in a whole new way.

In describing her vision for the property, Riannon explains, “We want the Brandywine Branch Distillery to be a destination. We want people to come, to not just take tours in the distillery, but take classes, learn about the whole process, spend time in the gardens, spend time in the tasting room and see the beautiful property that we’ve restored.”

From growing up in rural Ireland to her current farm in Chester County, Riannon has spent her entire life around the elements of spirits—grains, flowers, animals, botanicals, gardening, and cooking—all in pastoral settings. “I learned to distill with essential oils, flowers and herbs at a very early age, which kind of carried over into working with botanicals,” she said. “It was just kind of a natural progression for me to go from distillations of botanicals into grains and to whisky.”

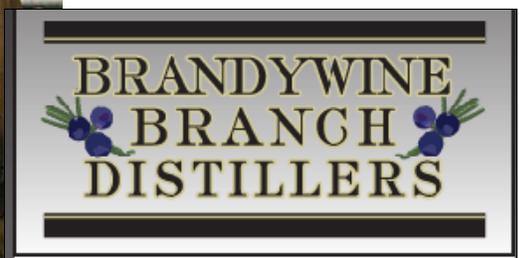


Over the years, whether she was writing, blending, teaching or hosting tastings, Riannon always came back to the small and creative spirits produced by craft distilleries. During that time, men and women of all ages embraced whisky, and the country relaxed its distilling laws. When the PA distilling laws changed in 2014, Riannon knew it was time to find a still to call her own.



She is putting the finishing touches on her new Elverson business and is projecting an open day in about a month. If you are looking forward to this or want more information, feel free to call 610) 901-3668.

Elverson as a destination town—I like the sound of that.



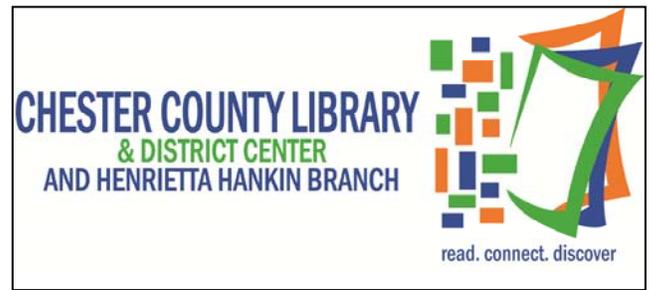
## FLOWER POTS SOON TO REAPPEAR - WANT TO ADOPT A POT?

*Donna Mountz*

A glorious spring has arrived! And for flower lovers in Elverson that means the return of the large, sidewalk flower pots to grace the streets of our wonderful little town. Perhaps you have wondered who plants and takes care of these colorful pots all summer long. Well, it's a small army of about a dozen, dedicated townsfolk who take joy in flowers. Perhaps you would like to join this little team of town beautifiers. Good news! We are expanding and we have room for you!

Our commission is planning to purchase about 25% more flower pots, and we are looking for people who would like to "adopt" them. If you live on Main Street or on North or South Chestnut Street, we would like to encourage you to consider adopting a pot. What does this mean? It means that a large flower pot filled with potting soil and fertilizer will be delivered to the sidewalk outside your house, and you get to purchase whatever flowers you love to fill the pot. It usually takes about 7 or 8 potting plants to make a nice full arrangement. Then you take responsibility for your pot to thrive, by regularly watering and feeding your creation. That's it! If you need to be away, you find a neighbor or friend who is willing to care for your "baby" while you are gone. And as the weeks pass, you will be blessed with the glory that flowers proclaim and a sense of having done something special for your community.

If you would like to adopt a pot this summer, please email me at [dwmountz48@hotmail.com](mailto:dwmountz48@hotmail.com) or call me at 610-286-9742. Let's fill our sidewalks with flowers!



The library was a busy place in March. Over 31,000 items were checked out. We held 78 programs for children and adults with 1635 participants. Twenty-one community events were held at the library. April is shaping up to be just as busy, but the final numbers aren't in yet. Please spread the word to your neighbors and friends that the library is more than books! All departments will have summer reading clubs to encourage children to read and adults to have some fun. Stay tuned for details.

I'd like to highlight one of our newer offerings. You can now check out passes to some of our local museums – for free! The library has purchased these passes with funding from the Friends of the Henrietta Hankin Branch Library, the Chester County Library Trust and Alliance Pharma. You can reserve a pass online for the day you want to use it. You may pick up the pass after 3 pm the day before it is used and you must return it the next day soon after the library opens. Most of the passes allow for multiple people – adults and children. Some offer extra perks such as discounts in a gift shop. All details are available online at: <http://chescolibraries.org/using-library/museum-passes>

For those of you who don't know, the Henrietta Hankin Branch Library is closed on Sundays starting Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day Weekend.

Hope to see you soon,  
Beverly Lawler  
Manager  
Henrietta Hankin Branch Library  
215 Windgate Drive Chester Springs, PA  
[blawler@ccls.org](mailto:blawler@ccls.org)

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### KEEP PA BEAUTIFUL LAUNCHES ONLINE GUIDE TO ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful recently launched [ewastepa.org](http://ewastepa.org), a consumer guide to electronics recycling in PA. The site explains why and how to recycle electronics and links consumers to recycling programs in their community.





Dr. Leo McCormick  
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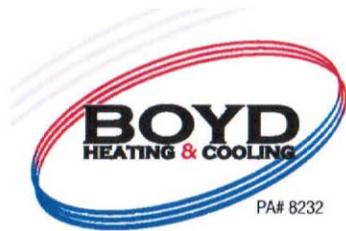
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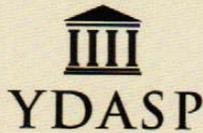
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610.286.5117 [stoltzfusrealtors.com](http://stoltzfusrealtors.com)

## Garden Houses Shutters - Porch Systems



**VixenHill.com**  
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*Send your Elverson news and stories to our editor at [brenda@stoltzfus.com](mailto:brenda@stoltzfus.com) by May 20 or call her at 610.286.5115. Newsletters can be found on [elversonboro.org](http://elversonboro.org).*

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*Elverson sunrise*

## **ELVERSON EVENTS**

Main Street Yard Sale	Saturday, May 7	<i>Main Street</i>	8 am to 1 pm
CEFC Women's Event	Saturday, May 21	<i>Community E Free Church</i>	4 pm
Public Ordinance Meeting	Tuesday, May 24	<i>Hopewell Manor</i>	6 to 8 pm
Memorial Day Observance	Monday, May 30	<i>Elverson Cemetery</i>	10:30 am
Elverson Day at the Park	Saturday, June 25	<i>Livingood Park</i>	5 pm to dark

