



East Coventry Times

Inside this issue

Spring 2016

FAST FACTS ABOUT EAST COVENTRY

Population*: 6,636
 Male 3,218 48.5%
 Female 3,418 51.5%
 Median Age: 40.1

No. of Households*: 2,624
 Owner occupied: 1,975
 Renter occupied: 501
 Vacant units: 148
 Average household size of owner occupied units: 2.72
 Average household size of renter-occupied units: 2.09

Miles of Roadway
 48.84 Township
 11.09 State

Number of Employees:
 8 Police
 3 Administration
 5 Public Works
 2 Seasonal/PT

Total 2016 Budget Expenditures: \$5,769,605.39

Real Estate Millage Rate: 3
 Fire Hydrant Millage Rate: .012

*2010 Census

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East Coventry Historical Commission

THE WINTER OF 1886

As I watched the snow build up on our roof during the January 2016 blizzard, I thought of the 163 winters my old home built by James and Angeline Ellis, had endured and all the families it had kept warm and safe. Thanks to Paul Sumner Fricks, "A Biographical Sketch of Horace Greeley Ellis (1856-1897), His Family and Descendants", I know a little of the winter of 1886-1887 as recorded in Horace's diary. The following is a few of the 1886 entries from that diary as recorded in Mr. Paul Sumner Fricks excellent biographical sketch:

Fri. Jan. 1—Ther. 35 Wea. Clear Very pleasant, like an April day. Took dinner at Irve's, Coz. S. March drove from West Chester.

Sat. Jan. 2—Ther. 30 Wea. Clear At home in forenoon. In afternoon hilled up young trees & trimmed peach trees. Ground not frozen.

Sun. Jan. 3—Ther. 30 Wea. Clear & Cloudy. Attended S.S. & Church, S. March called in afternoon and took tea.

Mon. Jan. 4—Ther. 60 Wea. Cloudy At Pottstown laying out Royer's lots till noon, heavy rain in afternoon and evening thunder. Lightning struck John Ellis's barn. Quite warm.

Fri. Jan. 8—Ther. 30 Wea. Clear, cloudy. Helped to cut fodder & haul lime on orchard. In evening a blizzard from the East with snow.

Sat. Jan. 9—Ther. 15 Wea. Snowy, stormy. Blowing the snow into drifts.

Sun. Jan. 10—Ther. 10 Wea. Partly clear. Started to Church with family in sleigh but after upsetting them in a drift had to proceed alone. Cold all day. Small meeting.

Mon. Jan. 11—Ther. 8 Wea. Clear Helped butcher 3 pigs. 1 for Jno. Grubb, 180 lbs. Cold day.

Tue. Jan. 12—Ther. -2 Wea. Clear Butchering, Stauffers down. Jonas Leopold struck by train on P.S.V.R.R. at Wells. 2 horses killed.

Wed. Jan. 13—Ther. -4 Wea. Clear Out sleighing in afternoon. At Irv's and Wiand's on Ridge. At meeting in evening, very cold.

Thur. Jan. 14—Ther. -5 Wea. Clear Helped to load ice at Saylor's dam in afternoon.

"Horace Greeley Ellis was born on July 2, 1856 at Fricks Locks, East Coventry Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. His father and mother were James L. and Angeline Frick Ellis." As his diary indicated, Horace was active as a surveyor in nearby Pottstown and Limerick Township, Montgomery County as well as in Phoenixville and other parts of northern Chester County. He was also an architect having drawn the plans for the Garrett Brownback mansion in Limerick Station (today's Linfield).

In 1866 Horace was elected to the post of East Coventry Township tax assessor and collector. Horace was 30 years old in 1886, married to Cornelia "Cornie" Rogers, and had one daughter, Maude. Horace and Cornelia lived in a house (demolished) located at the Northwest corner of the intersection of Sanatoga and Fricks Locks Road on the north edge of the James L. Ellis farm.

In relation to Historic Preservation, we think mostly of age (deed decent) and architecture, but it is the people, their lives and time, that give life to historic preservation. Mr. Paul Sumner Frick's diary information came from a generous loan of the diary by Marion Shalkop Pennypacker (Mrs. Walter). If you have a family genealogy, photographs, historic property record, or other information about your home and family, please consider donating a copy to the East Coventry Historical Commission so we will always have a record of the evolution and heart beat of our community.

East Coventry Historical Commission

Fricks Locks Village Information

FRICKS LOCKS VILLAGE NEWS!

Fricks Locks Village has been included in the Iron and Steel Heritage Tours! Find us in the new 'Iron and Steel Tours' brochure, the 'Powering Freedom Tour' and on www.ironandsteelheritage.org, Heritage Sites, Southeastern Pennsylvania. Scott Fitzgerald, Vice Chairman of the East Coventry Historical Commission, has done a great job serving as our representative on the steering committee for the Iron and Steel Partnership 300th Anniversary of Iron and Steel Making in Pennsylvania.

Visit Fricks Locks Village during the 2016 Season and let us tell you about our contribution to Pennsylvania's great Iron and Steel Heritage! See the last page for a listing of the Tour dates and times or visit the Township website at www.eastcoventry-pa.gov.

Stormwater Management Educational Information

KEEPING STORMWATER CLEAN FOR HEALTHIER STREAMS

Because stormwater runoff from our properties flows into Pigeon Creek, Stony Run, French Creek, the Schuylkill River, and their smaller tributaries, efforts to control stormwater pollution benefit from your individual activities, in addition to the regulations enforced by the Township. It takes changes in our familiar thinking to modify actions that can help reduce stormwater pollution and the degradation of the waterways in the Township. The following simple vehicle maintenance practices can help to reduce stormwater pollution of our waterways.

- Check your vehicle for fluid leaks regularly and fix them promptly.
- Use ground cloths or oil pans under your vehicle, if you have leaks or if you are doing engine work.
- Clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of clean up materials.
- Never dump motor oil or other engine fluids into road gutters, storm drains and basins or on to the ground.

Stream Cleanup!

In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors are sponsoring a cleanup of the Pigeon Creek between Route 724 to the Schuylkill River. Persons interested in keeping East Coventry clean and green are invited to volunteer a few hours of their time to participate in this 9th annual community stream cleanup initiative. Interested volunteers are to gather at the Schuylkill River Trail parking lot located at the intersection of Linfield Road and Route 724, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 23, 2016. The rain date will be Saturday, April 30, 2016. For more information, please contact Brady L. Flaharty, Township Engineer, at 610-495-2118 or brady.Flaharty@thearrogroup.com.

Road Projects

The following roads are scheduled to be oil & chipped this summer. Zieber Road (between Old Schuylkill and Kolb Road); Kolb Road (between Saylor's Mill Road and Township Line); Grubb Road (between Ebelhare Road and Fulmer Road); Fulmer Road (between Ebelhare Road and Ridge Road); Creamery Road (between Ellis Woods Road and Bethel Church Road) and East Cedarville Road (between Saylor's Mill Road and Sanatoga Road).

Police Department Update—Scam Phone Calls

The East Coventry Police Department would like to provide the following information due to the recent increase in Scam Phone Calls.

The IRS continues to warn consumers to guard against scam phone calls from thieves intent on stealing their money or their identity. Criminals pose as the IRS to trick victims out of their money or personal information. Stay alert to scams that use the IRS as a lure. Tax scams can happen any time of year, not just at tax time. Here are several tips to help you avoid being a victim of these scams:

- **Scammers make unsolicited calls.** Thieves call taxpayers claiming to be IRS officials. They demand that the victim pay a bogus tax bill. They con the victim into sending cash, usually through a prepaid debit card or wire transfer. They may also leave “urgent” callback requests through phone “robo-calls”, or via phishing email.
- **Callers try to scare their victims.** Many phone scams use threats to intimidate and bully a victim into paying. They may even threaten to arrest, deport or revoke the license of their victim if they don’t get the money.
- **Scams use caller ID spoofing.** Scammers often alter caller ID to make it look like the IRS or another agency is calling. The callers use IRS titles and fake badge numbers to appear legitimate. They may use the victim’s name, address and other personal information to make the call sound official.
- **Cons try new tricks all the time.** Some schemes provide an actual IRS address where they tell the victim to mail a receipt for the payment they make. Others use emails that contain a fake IRS document with a phone number or an email address for a reply. These scams often use official IRS letterhead in emails or regular mail that they send to their victims. They try these ploys to make the ruse look official.
- **Scams cost victims over \$23 million.** The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, or TIGTA, has received reports of about 736,000 scam contacts since October 2013. Nearly 4,550 victims have collectively paid over \$23 million as a result of the scam.

The IRS will not:

- Call you to demand immediate payment. The IRS will not call you if you owe taxes without first sending you a bill in the mail.
- Demand that you pay taxes and not allow you to question or appeal the amount you owe.
- Require that you pay your taxes a certain way. For instance, require that you pay with a prepaid debit card.
- Ask for your credit or debit card number over the phone.
- Threaten to bring in police or other agencies to arrest you for not paying.

If you don’t owe taxes, or have no reason to think that you do:

- Do not give out any information. Hang up immediately.

If you know you owe taxes, or think you may owe tax:

- Call the IRS at 800-829-1040. IRS workers can help you.

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee

Are you ready for Pickle Ball!

Pickle ball will be starting again! The East Coventry Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee is looking forward to starting the 2016 season on Tuesday and Thursday nights 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m./dark starting in April.

The Pickle Ball court and equipment is available for use during the day and on weekends. Please sign out the equipment by stopping by the Township Administration building and fill out the Pickle Ball Net usage form.

The Committee welcomes the residents of East Coventry Township to come out and play, whether you are a novice or seasoned player of the game. We are excited to shake off those winter blues and start soaking in the springtime weather!

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee (cont.)

1st Annual 5k, 10k, 1 Mile Walk/Run!

The East Coventry Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee is trying something new this Spring! Instead of Community Day, the Township is sponsoring a 10k, 5k, 1 Mile Walk/Run with the proceeds helping to rebuild the historic "dry stacked" Rock Wall located at the Daniel H. Kulp Farm (previously known as the Wineberry Park grounds).

The Run will take place on Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. The Run will begin and end at the East Coventry Township building. There is still time to register for the Run.

So, grab those running/walking shoes and be at the East Coventry Township building, 855 Ellis Woods Road, Pottstown, PA 19465 to get a little exercise with the community!

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Annual Run!

EAST COVENTRY TOWNSHIP

ANNUAL PARKS, RECREATION AND

CONSERVATION RUN

10k, 5k & 1 Mile Walk/Run

When: Saturday, March 19, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Where: East Coventry Township
855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Awards The first three runners male and female will get a Road Runners Gift Card. \$25 for 1st Place, \$15 for 2nd Place, and \$10 for 3rd Place for the 5k and 10k runs. Runners can only run one race. Medals will be given on each race male/female 14 & under, 15-19, 20-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59 and 60+.

Registration: \$30 for 10k or 5k and \$10 for Fun walk/run

All runners get an American Apparel Unisex Long Sleeve Thermal
If registered by March 7, 2016

Amenities:

Chip Times Two water stations Refreshments: water, hot cider, hot chocolate, bananas, bagels, etc.
Photographer along the route and **FREE** (yes we said free) downloadable pictures from the East Coventry Township website <http://eastcoventry-pa.gov/ParkandRecRun2016/Pix>

If you want to register by check, mail a check along with the below information to:

East Coventry Township
855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Strollers, walkers and pets are welcome, but please keep in mind that this is a part road and trail course!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Gender: M F Age on Race Day: _____

Emergency Responder? Y N If yes, where? _____

Email address: _____

Adult (circle one) Size: XS S M L XL XXL

1 Mile Fun Walk/Run 5K 10K

If you are interested in sponsoring the race or volunteering please contact John Doyle at jjdoyle@comcast.net or call 610-203-2488

Recycling

MATERIALS TO BE RECYCLED

Township Ordinance No. 193 "Municipal Waste Collection and Recycling Ordinance", adopted by the Board of Supervisors to comply with Act 101- The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, as amended, makes recycling a requirement for everyone.

Occupants of residential units are required to separate and recycle clear glass, colored glass, high-grade office paper, newsprint (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

Commercial establishments are required to separate and recycle corrugated paper, high-grade office paper, aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics. Hospitality establishments which include restaurants are required to separate and recycle cardboard, high-grade office paper, newspaper (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics. All Community events attended by 200 or more people are required to have recycling containers.

Grass clippings that are not permitted to lay on the lawn or disposed of at an appropriate composting facility may be commingled with other municipal waste and collected curbside. Household hazardous waste and leaf waste must be separated from recyclable material and other municipal waste. Leaf Waste is defined as, "Leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings and similar material, but does not include grass clippings." **The burning of leaf waste is prohibited.**

Municipal Waste collectors shall provide for the curbside collection of leaf waste at least twice per year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall but may schedule collection of leaf waste more frequently. **Please check with your collector to learn when your curbside collection dates are scheduled.**

Leaf waste may be dropped off at **Arborganic Acres**, an On-Farm Organic Composting Facility located at 901 Cherry Hill Lane, Pottstown, Pa. 19465, 484-614-5838 or www.arborganicacres.com, pursuant to its rules and regulations.

Burning is no longer allowed except for recreational purposes, such as barbecues, campfires, chimineas and similar activities.

Stormwater Management Education Information

Environmentally Deice!

Ice build-up on sidewalks and driveways caused by ice storms and melting snow is extremely common this winter. There are many alternatives to using traditional rock salt as a deicer, as rock salt carried by snow and ice melt pollutes our streams and waterways. To help minimize rock salt pollution, consider using more environmentally friendly deicers, such as calcium magnesium acetate, magnesium chloride or non-chloride deicing products.

Election Day Update

We have a special update for Election Day (Primary, April 26th and General/Midterm, November 8th). The Election Committee will be collecting can goods at the polls for donation to the local food banks. The donations will be dropped off at a local food bank in our area to help families in need.

Save the Date

**East Coventry Township
Parks, Recreation &
Conservation 1st Annual Run
10k, 5k and 1 Mile Run/Walk
March 19, 2016 9:00 AM
Starting at Ellis Woods Park**
Please see website for more details.
Registration \$30.00 for 10k or 5k
and \$10.00 for 1 Mile Fun Run/
Walk. Registration form available
on website or at the township office.

**65th Annual Easter Egg Hunt
March 19, 2016 10:00 AM sharp
to be held at the East Coventry
Township Elementary School**
All children of East Coventry Town-
ship are invited to the Annual East-
er Egg Hunt. Bring your own bas-
ket or bag for your share of the
goodies. Many prizes are awarded!
Rain date is Friday March 25, 2016.

**Tax Collector 2016 Dates & Times
Payments can be made at the
Township Building on:**

Tuesdays, April 5, 12, 19
(12:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

Thursdays, April 7, 14, 21, 28
(12:00 PM to 4:00 PM)

Saturdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30
(9:00 AM to 12:00 PM)



East Coventry Township

855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Phone: 610-495-5443
Fax: 610-495-9925

Website: www.eastcoventry-pa.gov
E-mail: info@eastcoventry-pa.gov

Board of Supervisors

Ray Kolb, Chair

W. Atlee Rinehart, Vice Chair

Karen Nocella, Member

Michael Albert Moyer, Member

Anthony Duffy, Member

Dates to Remember

UPCOMING EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt

East Coventry Elementary School
March 19 at 10:00 AM
Rain date: March 25 at 10:00 AM

East Coventry Township Annual Park Recreation and Conservation Run

Ellis Woods Park
March 19, 2016 at 9:00 AM

Fricks Locks Village Tours

10:00 AM, 11:15 AM and 12:30 PM
May 14, 2016 & May 28, 2016
June 11, 2016 & June 25, 2016
July 9, 2016 & July 23, 2016
August 13, 2016 & August 27, 2016
September 10, 2016 & September 24, 2016
October 8, 2016 & October 22, 2016

Ridge Fire Company Community Day

September 10 at 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

TOWNSHIP MEETINGS

Board of Supervisors
2nd Monday at 7:00 PM

Planning Commission
3rd Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Historical Commission
2nd Wednesday at 7:00 PM

Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee
4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Open Space Committee (Bi-Monthly)
1st Wednesday at 7:00 PM
Starting January 2016

All township meetings are held at the Township Building