



East Coventry Times

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Greetings from Township Staff...

In this issue we share news about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

From all of us here at ECT – we look forward to working with you this year!

East Coventry Township Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee invite you to join us for our 4th Annual 5K and 10K Rock the Wall Run again this year. This year, the run is in honor of John Doyle, who came to the Committee three years ago with a dream to create an East Coventry run. The Township said yes, and John organized and directed the run. Sadly, John passed away suddenly this past year and the Parks, Recreation and Conservation Committee is dedicating the 2019 Rock the Wall Run in his honor. John will surely be missed at this year's run and all future runs!

Registrants may also choose to walk the 5K course. This event is for families and friends of East Coventry Township, however strollers are ill advised as part of the course is on uneven trail surfaces. The goal for this event is to expose the public to East Coventry Township's parks and trails. Proceeds from the run will be used for improvements to East Coventry Township's parks and trails.

The 4th Annual 5K and 10K John Doyle Rock the Wall Run will be held on April 13, 2019. Registration begins at 8:30 am. Both races will start at 10:00 am. All awards will be presented at the Park Pavilion at 11:00 am. All runners will follow the 5K course and 10K runners will continue on a new route to complete the second leg of the run. Both routes are a combination of road and trail surfaces. Markers will be placed at the 1, 2, 3, 4, 5– and 6-mile locations. Photos will be taken along the route and will be available for free download.

Registration can be performed on-line (**preferred**) or mailed. To register on-line, go to <https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration/>. Mail in registrations should be sent to Pretzel City Sports (address on registration form). Here are links to the maps for the 5K (<https://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/1386021277>) and 10k (<http://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/1374091330>) courses. The map links are noted on the registration form and East Coventry Township's website. You will also find the registration form as a page in this newsletter.

Staff Notes...

Welcome Mr. David G. Kraynik, as the new Township Manager for East Coventry Township! The Board of Supervisors appointed Dave Kraynik as Township Manager on December 10, 2018. Mr. Kraynik has over 40 years of local government experience, 26 of those as a Township Manager. He previously served in Cheltenham and Upper Merion Townships. He has an undergraduate degree in Journalism from Temple University and a graduate degree in Public Administration from Penn State University. He is immediate past president of the Association of Pennsylvania Municipal Management. He is married to his wife, Susan, and has two daughters, Sarah and Stephanie.

Staff Notes Cont'd...

"I am thrilled to be in East Coventry. It is a beautiful community and I look forward to working with everyone to make it an even better place to live, work and play." "I am very appreciative for the confidence the Supervisors have shown in me and for this outstanding opportunity." David G. Kraynik

Police Department...

Congratulations Chief Mossman!

East Coventry Township would like to congratulate Chief William Mossman on becoming President of the Chester County Police Chiefs Association. The Chester County Police Chiefs Association is responsible for setting standards for the actions of all Police Departments in Chester County.

Chief Mossman was inducted to the position at the Installation Dinner held on Friday, January 18, 2019. This position comes with great responsibility. Chief Mossman will be the main point of contact for all the Police Departments in Chester County. He will be in discussions with the District Attorney's office and the County Judges to provide input on any new proposed policies for Chester County Police Departments. Once all discussions are completed, Chief Mossman will be the person to make sure the policies are implemented by all Police Departments. Chief Mossman will be holding monthly meetings with the Chief of Police from all Boroughs/Townships to discuss issues that arise in the individual departments.

Police Department Staff Changes in 2018

The East Coventry Township Police Department lost our one and only female Police Officer. Officer Mistie Greenwalt took a position with the East Whiteland Police Department. Officer Greenwalt was a 12-year veteran with the East Coventry Township Police Department. Mistie was well known with the residents of East Coventry Township. The residents would call to speak to Mistie and if they could not remember her name, they would always ask for the "Lady Officer". The Township will miss Mistie but wishes Mistie well in her new position with the East Whiteland Police Department.

The East Coventry Police Department added two new full-time officers to fill the vacancies created when Officer Thiel left us for North Coventry last year, and when Officer Greenwalt left us for East Whiteland last year.

In July of 2018, the Board of Supervisors offered Taylor Ashburn the full-time position vacated by Officer Thiel when he left in January. Ashburn was a part-time police officer, who started with our Police Department in February 2018. Taylor grew up here in East Coventry Township and his family still resides in the Township today. Before Ashburn was hired by East Coventry, he had worked as a part-time police officer for Bethel Township and as a full-time police officer with the Temple University Police in Philadelphia.

At their January 14th meeting, the Board of Supervisors offered Gregory Bickel the full-time position vacated by Officer Greenwalt when she left in December. Bickel was a part-time officer, who started with our police department in December 2018. Before joining our police force, Greg was a part-time police officer with the West Vincent Police Department, the East Vincent Police Department and the East Whiteland Police Department. Greg began his law enforcement career in 2013 as a full-time Philadelphia Housing Authority Police Officer.

Both of these new officers have a wealth of experience and an intimate knowledge of the area and surrounding municipalities. We feel lucky to have acquired these talented officers and are expecting great things from them in the future.

New Community Awareness Webpage

East Coventry Township has added a new "Community Awareness" webpage to the website. This page allows the Township to place any notifications, publications or communications from other agencies for all residents of East Coventry Township to read. The Police Department will be utilizing this webpage to post Pennsylvania State Police Community Awareness notifications, Chester County notifications or East Coventry Township Police Department articles or notifications. Please check out this new webpage when you get a chance.

Finance Department...

Sewer Account Payments. Please notate your address on your sewer payment, your sewer account number is actually the property address of the service connection. If you need to make payment arrangements, please contact us at 610-495-5443.

Public Works...

Take it "Slow" through the work zones. Public Works' personnel will be black topping the following roads in 2019: Ebelhare Road between Fulmer and Porter's Mill Roads, Porter's Mill Road between Bard Road and the South Coventry Township line, Halteman Road between Fulmer and Kulp Roads, and also Wells Road between Route 724 and Linfield Road.



Voluntary Inspection Program...

If you are connected to the public sewer system, there is still time to take part in the Voluntary Inspection Program. Contact the building inspector, Harry Weaver, at 215-519-1870 to schedule your free inspection.

Coventry Food Pantry...

You may drop off items in the Township office lobby. Your donations support families throughout the Owen J. Roberts School District. **Items Always Needed:**

Canned Goods | Peanut Butter & Jelly | Cleaning Supplies | Personal Supplies
Paper Products | Laundry Detergent | Diapers & Wipes

Ridge Fire Company Reflective Address Markers If we can't FIND YOU we can't HELP YOU!!!

The signs are only \$15 each. You can have a 6" by 18" "Mailbox Marker" or a 14" wide by 5" high "House Marker". More information and forms to order the Reflective Address Markers are available on the Ridge Fire Company's website www.ridgefirecompany.com. You can also call in a request at 610-495-6063.

Ordinance 2018-227 "Amendments to Brush, Weeds and Grass Ordinance"

This Ordinance addresses that grass clippings, leaves and other yard waste left on public and private streets cause slippery conditions for motorists, bicycles and pedestrians, are unsightly, and contribute to the clogging of East Coventry Township's storm sewers, thereby requiring excess maintenance, and are hereby declared to be a nuisance and prohibited. See the full Ordinance on the East Coventry Township's website at www.eastcoventry-pa.gov.

Autumn Nature Walk



We had a great Awesome Autumn Walk on October 28, 2018 hosted by the Park & Recreation Committee, Supervisors Karen Nocella and Ray Kolb along with volunteers from the Parkerford Women's Club. After all the rain the previous days it was great to get out on a beautiful day, meet township residents and walk the Maack, Ussler, and Wineberry Trails! We hope to do it again in the fall, so stay tuned to the East Coventry website for future Park & Recreation events.

Earth Day Pigeon Creek Cleanup...



In support of Earth Day activities this April, the Board of Supervisors is sponsoring a cleanup of Pigeon Creek between Old Schuylkill Road and 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 12th 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 27, 2019**.

The rain date will be Saturday, May 4, 2019. For more information, please contact Brady Flaharty with ARRO Consulting Inc., the Township Engineer, via email at brady.flaharty@arroconsulting.com or phone at (484) 995-7137.

Spring Cleaning? Reduce, Reuse, Recycle...



- **Hazardous Waste Collection**

Visit the ECT Website (eastcoventry-pa.gov) for a link to Chester County's tentative 2019 Hazardous Waste Collection Schedule.

Note: Latex paint may be discarded in household trash following these steps:

Remove lid, dry out paint completely, discard (without lid); or pour paint into plastic bag with absorbent material (clay-based kitty litter, sawdust, rags), place bag and can (without lid) in trash. Paint hardener can also be purchased at the hardware store.

- **Electronics**

Brandywine Recycling and Disposal
172 Barons Hill Road, Honey Brook, PA 19344
M-F 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat 9 a.m.-3 p.m. | Phone: 610-942-2500
(\$20 - any size TV | Also accept scrap metal, tires, and propane tanks.)
Visit the ECT Website (eastcoventry-pa.gov) for a link to their flyer.

- **Leaf and Yard Waste**

Township residents may drop off leaf and yard waste at no charge to Arborganic Acres organic composting facility (arborganicacres.com), 901 Cherry Hill Ln., Pottstown, PA 19465 or contact your trash collection contractor for their pickup schedule.

2019 Tax Collection Office Hours ...

East Coventry Township Tax Collector, Missy King, will be at the Township office, 855 Ellis Woods Rd., to receive tax payments in person on the April dates listed:

Tuesdays, April 2, 9, 16, 23	12 Noon—4:00 PM
Thursdays, April 4, 11, 18, 25	12 Noon—4:00 PM
Saturdays, April 6, 13, 20	9:00 AM—12 Noon
Tuesday, April 30th	12:00 PM—7:00 PM

Payment of Township Real Estate and Per Capita Tax accepted in person in the Board of Supervisors meeting room at the dates and times shown above.
(Credit card payments are not accepted.)

For further information or special appointment times, please contact:
Missy King, Phone: 610-495-7667



News from the Spotted Lantern Fly Quarantine Zone (by Liz Willow)

By now, everyone in East Coventry knows what the Spotted Lantern Fly looks like. This pretty sap sucking insect, native to China and Vietnam hitched a ride, probably as egg patches on something being transported by trans-ocean cargo ship. Arriving at their destination in nearby Berks County they hatched, spread and were soon identified in 2014 by PA agricultural extension entomologists. This began the battle to control these invasive, hopping insects.

One huge advantage the Spotted Lantern Fly has is the extensive presence of their favorite host tree, the Ailanthus, or Tree of Heaven, right here in East Coventry. Ailanthus is native to the same areas as the Lantern Fly. This tree was already well established in Pennsylvania and the rest of the United States. In the Fall the adult flies gather on the trunks of the Ailanthus to mate and lay eggs nearby. The adults are killed by the first hard frost, but the eggs, laid in rows and covered by a protective smear survive the winter.

The sightings of Spotted Lantern Fly in East Coventry this season have been "spotty". Some residents have them everywhere while nearby neighbors don't. When I saw our first infestations in early fall, 2017, my family and neighbors swatted flies, scraped eggs, and cut down Ailanthus. We only saw a few Lantern Flies over the 2018 Summer and no egg patches yet. So far we are lucky that our hard work may have mattered.

The single most important thing we can do right now in our own quarantined community is to prevent the spread of the Spotted Lantern Fly to other areas by controlling the way they spread. They didn't hop over the ocean. They didn't hop into East Coventry. They were carried in as gravid females or eggs on containers, campers, canoes or vehicles that were parked inside the quarantine zone in the midst of the Autumn egg-laying. We only have until early Spring to examine every movable piece of equipment in our own yards for egg patches. Drivers, workers, and shoppers coming in from outside the quarantine zone also have the responsibility of checking for bugs or eggs before returning. Commercial businesses that travel in and out of the zone should do the same, and are required to complete an educational permitting process available online.

Historical Committee Update...

FRICKS LOCKS VILLAGE 2019 TOUR SCHEDULE

East Coventry Township and Exelon will host free tours in Fricks Locks Village on the following dates and times.

Tours will be conducted at
10:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.
on the following Saturdays.

May 11, 2019 and May 25, 2019
June 8, 2019 and June 22, 2019
July 13, 2019 and July 27, 2019
August 10, 2019 and August 24, 2019
September 14, 2019 and September 28, 2019
October 12, 2019 and October 26, 2019

For Directions, Weather Cancellations, Additional Information
Please Check the East Coventry Township Webpage www.eastcoventry-pa.gov
(Cancellations will be posted after 12:00 noon on Friday preceding tour date)

John Price Kepner, A Voice From Fricks Locks Village

John Price Kepner was a 14-year old sickly boy who was a quick learner and had a head for figures. He was sent by his family to Fricks Locks in the summer of 1854 to work and learn. He wrote the following letters telling his parents of his experiences in Fricks Locks:

Fricks Locks
May 23rd 1854

Dear Parents,

It is with pleasure that I write to you this evening to inform you that I have had very good health since I have been in Chester County. I am getting a great deal stouter than I was formerly. This evening there is nobody in the store except George Frick and Elhanan and myself. I have gained five pounds since I arrived. When I came down, I weighed myself with my winter clothes on, and I weighed sixty-five pounds, and I weighed myself today, and I weighed seventy pounds. Uncle John weighs four pounds more since Mother was down.

Everything is very high and very dear. Oates are sixty cents per bushel, corn is ninety cents, and wheat is two dollars ten per bushel, but we do not keep the article. I expect to go with Uncle John day after tomorrow to Philadelphia. I would like to have about six dollars if you have it to spare, for I would like to have a watch. Six dollars would be as much as I would want for I have little money.

No more at present but remain
Your affectionate son
(signed J. P. Kepner)

Fricks Locks
July 4th 1854

Dear Parents,

I now take the favorable opportunity of writing to you to tell you how I am getting along. I have been mighty hearty since I have been down here. I would like to live here as well as along the mountains but I would like to see you all but I must say I am not homesick. We are all well.

I want you to write me a letter and let me know whether you will let me get Uncle John to buy me a watch, and you can fix it up with him when you come down.

No more but remain
Your affectionate son
(signed J.P. Kepner)

We'll never know if John Price Kepner was ever able to purchase a watch in the year 1854.

Uncle John in the letter is John Ellis, brother to the mother of Master Kepner, Eliza Ellis Kepner, and brother-in-law to Elhanan Frick. Elhanan's sister Angeline Frick was married to James Laird Ellis.

The 'Store' in Fricks Locks was geographically and economically the center of the village. Operated 1851-1930, built by Elhanan Frick, it has a vaulted stone root cellar w/built in ice pit and still present meat hooks. It was a general store open 24/7, a U.S. Post Office and gossip center!

At the age of 21 after finishing his business education at Bryant and Stratton College in Philadelphia, John Price Kepner (known as Price) joined the 6th PA Cavalry, Company I, Rush's Lancers. From his military records we know Price was 5' 7 1/2" tall at a total of 125 lbs. and had grey eyes, brown hair and a fair complexion. He fought at Gettysburg among other battles, but it was there that he injured his wrist falling from his horse. He requested and received a transfer to a medical unit where he became a hospital steward.



Price moved to Washington, D.C. after his Civil War duties ended. He joined the U.S. Surgeon General's Office as head of the newly-created statistical unit. Price added to his credentials by graduating from the law school of Columbian College in 1870, the predecessor to George Washington University.

Price Kepner's fragile health finally caught up with him. He died at the age of 41 on September 15, 1881. The next day the Washington Post published a "Tribute of Respect: Resolutions Deploring the Death of the late J. Price Kepner" by his colleagues. The resolutions stated in part: 'The Government loses a valuable officer, society a good citizen and an urbane gentleman, his family a loving heart and we a true friend. The memory of his excellencies will outlive our official life, and the influence of his beneficent kindness will survive to us, even though we see him no more.'

We would like to thank Susan H. Ruth for donating the above information from her soon to be published book, *Mayflower to Michigan and Beyond: My Family's Journey*. Also, we would like to thank Paul Trimber, Fricks Locks Volunteer who researched and wrote the script for our 2018 Town Tour and Village Walk costumed presentation of John Price Kepner.

One of the great privileges of volunteering at Fricks Locks is meeting those who have ties with Fricks Locks and generously share their information. Mrs. Ruth obtained permission from the Virginia Historical Society to share these letters with you. Mrs. Ruth also donated the following from her family archives:

Original poem titled 'G. Ellis Reagan' written by John Ellis for his niece, Maria Ellis Kepner Reagan.

Letter written in 1907 by John Ellis to his niece, Maria Ellis Kepner Reagan encouraging her to write her life's story.

Original poem titled 'Triumphant!' written by John Ellis to his niece, Maria Ellis Kepner Reagan.

Clipping of John Ellis's 1916 obituary in the Pottstown newspaper.

EAST COVENTRY HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Register for the John Doyle Rock the Wall Run...

Complete the Registration Form below and submit \$25 entry fee (check/money order) payable to East Coventry Township by March 24th to receive a Rock the Wall Thermal Long Sleeve T-shirt. Entry fees received after March 24th (including Race Day) are \$30. T-shirts are not guaranteed if your Registration Form & entry fee is received after March 24th.

(Preferred) Online Registration Available: <https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration/>

Awards will be given to the top three male finishers and top three female finishers for the 5K and 10K races respectively. 1st place \$75 gift card, 2nd place \$50 gift card, 3rd place \$25 gift card (All Awards given for both the 5K and 10K races).

Finish line & timing service by Pretzel City Sports. Race results posted on www.pretzelcitysports.com.

Route map posted on East Coventry Township website:

<http://eastcoventry-pa.gov/> or

10k <http://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/1374091330>

5k <http://www.mapmyrun.com/routes/view/1386021277>

REGISTRATION FORM: 4th ANNUAL JOHN DOYLE ROCK THE WALL

Mail Check/Money Order (payable to East Coventry Township) along with this portion of Registration Form to:
Pretzel City Sports, 112 W. 36th Street, Reading, PA 19606

NOTE: Registration Form & Entry Fee must be received on or before March 24th to receive a Rock the Wall Thermal Long Sleeve T-shirt.

Entry fee after March 24^h (including Race Day) is \$30. (T-shirt not guaranteed if Registration Form & entry fee is received after March 24th.)

Circle your Event: 5k RUNNER / 5k WALKER / 10k RUNNER

T-Shirt Size (circle one): Adult: S M L XL XXL

Name _____

Email _____

Address _____

Phone _____

City _____

ST _____ Zip _____

Age (on Race Day) _____ Male _____ Female _____

Waiver/Release and Permission to Use Image.

For and in consideration of my participation in the "John Doyle Rock the Wall 4th Annual 5K and 10K, East Coventry Township, PA" (hereinafter the "Race"), I hereby agree to the terms and conditions of this Waiver/Release and Permission to Use Image as more specifically set forth herein. I hereby acknowledge that participation in such a Race is an inherently dangerous activity. I understand that the risks include serious injury or death from such hazards as weather conditions, falls, contact with the road, motor vehicle traffic, contact with other participants, the effects of the weather including heat and/or humidity, cold, wind and wind/chill, the condition of the road, trails and farmland and other potential hazards, foreseeable and/or unforeseeable. I acknowledge that I should not participate in the Race unless I am medically able and properly trained. I hereby waive and release any and all claims from loss, casualty, injury or death against the Race Director, Race Officials, the Township of East Coventry, the County of Chester and all Race volunteers and sponsors, their supervisors, commissioners, directors, principals, any and all employees, servants and agents, their representatives and successors and hereby further agree to assume all risks associated with participation in this Race.

Furthermore, I acknowledge that photographs, videotapes, recordings and other reproduction(s) of my image may be used for promotional purposes by the Township of East Coventry, Directors, Officials and/or Volunteers for the Race. I hereby grant any and all necessary permission to use any such images in any form of media, published or unpublished, now or hereafter for any legitimate purpose. I have read and fully understand that these terms are contractual and not a mere recital and sign this Waiver/Release and Permission to Use Image voluntarily.

_____ Date

_____ Signature of Participant (or parent or guardian if under the 18 years of age)

Any Questions Contact Jason Stouch jay.m.stouch@gmail.com 610-781-3199



East Coventry Township
855 Ellis Woods Road
Pottstown, PA 19465

Phone: 610-495-5443
Fax: 610-495-9925
www.eastcoventry-pa.gov

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*Be sure to visit the ECT website
(eastcoventry-pa.gov) for Township
news and activities!*

Board of Supervisors

W. Atlee Rinehart, Chair
Anthony Duffy, Vice Chair
Ray Kolb, Member
Karen Nocella, Member
Michael Albert Moyer, Member



Dates to Remember

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 Committee
4th Tuesday at 7:30 PM

Open Space Committee (Quarterly)
1st Wednesday at 7:00 PM
April 2019

All Township meetings are held at the Township Building

East Coventry Township Spring | Summer Office Hours Monday - Friday | 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Closed:

President's Day, Monday, February 18th
Good Friday, April 19th
Memorial Day, Monday, May 27th
Independence Day, Thursday, July 4th
Labor Day, Monday, September 2nd

Parents, Save the Date!

Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 13, 2019 (Rain date)

Friday, April 19, 2019 at 10:00 am
(old) East Coventry Elementary

Ridge Fire Co. Community Day

Saturday, September 14, 2019
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm