



A Newsletter for Residents & Friends of Thornhurst, Pennsylvania

March 2019

A Call for Volunteers

What is a volunteer? A volunteer is someone who gives of themselves for the benefit of others. What many don't realize is that the volunteer benefits as well. With our busy lives, you may ask "what's in it for me". Some of the general benefits include reduced stress, comradery, a connection with the community, new skills, and possible advancement in your paid job.

There are many opportunities to volunteer here in Thornhurst - North Pocono CARE, the Red Cross, Community Cleanups, etc., are a few. Another opportunity to volunteer close to home is with the Thornhurst Vol. Fire and Rescue Co. The number of volunteer firefighters in Pennsylvania has been on a steady decline from about 300,000 in the 70's to about 38,000 currently. Thornhurst has experienced this membership decline as well. With the average age of volunteer firefighters creeping upward to 48 and few young prospects to fill in behind, the volunteer fire service is in trouble. Communities face a serious dilemma if the volunteer fire companies can't adequately staff their stations. Most communities could not provide paid emergency services without a significant tax increase, which no one wants.

Your Fire Co. needs your help. There are many positions available such as firefighters, emergency medical technicians, first responders, driver / operators, event help, kitchen staff, etc. In addition to the benefits mentioned above, the Fire Co. offers free uniforms, free training (some of which can count toward college credits), member-only trips, a chance to make a difference in your community, and much more. To learn more about becoming a volunteer firefighter, send an email to pres54@ptd.net or stop by the station any Wednesday night at 7:30pm.

Pinchot State Forest Update

What a beautiful forest you have in your backyard! There were some changes made in the Pinchot State Forest in 2018. One of the most notable changes was the rerouting of the Pinchot Trail on the south side of Bear Lake Road. Keystone Trail Association spent several days moving the trail from roadways as much as possible and leading the trail through more picturesque areas. Also, the six campsites saw significant usage.

The forest is open for many outdoor activities such as camping, hiking, bird watching, cross country skiing and snowmobiling. During the hunting seasons all rules established by the Pennsylvania Game Commission are applicable on State Forest land.

Open fires are not permitted from March 1st through May 25th. The District Forester can also declare a restriction on open fires when danger is determined by the Department to be high. For more information, visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us or call 570.945.7133. Hours are Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm.

"Remember, only you can prevent forest fires." ~ Smokey the Bear

Take Pride in Our Community

Road Clean-up April 15 & 16

Celebrate Earth Day by volunteering for the road clean-up in the community. Meet at the Township Building at 5pm and later enjoy pizza at the Fire House. Rain date is April 17. Call Joe Kasulaitis at 570.842.6524 for more information.

Dumpsters Days May 9 - 11

Dumpsters will be available to residents only at the Fire House from 8am - 8pm daily. The site will close on Saturday when the dumpsters are filled to capacity. Proof of residency may be required.

Each household is limited to four free car tires. Extra car tires are \$2.25 and tractor trailer tires are \$7.00. Prices are the same for tires on or off rims. No machine tires larger than tractor trailer tires will be accepted.

Electronic items will be accepted this year. TVs must be whole. No building/construction waste will be accepted. The fee for disposing of items containing freon is \$20.00.

NEW! Shredding Service May 11

On-site shredding will be available at the Fire House from 8-11am. Materials are limited to two boxes per household and must measure 18" long, 11.5" wide, and 9" deep to allow more residents to participate. If this service is used and helpful, the Supervisors will review the need to keep this as part of the annual Spring clean-up in the future.

Thornhurst Township

356 Old River Road
Thornhurst, PA 18424
Email: Thornhurst356@gmail.com
www.ThornhurstTwp.com

Join us on Facebook @ Thornhurst Township

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

Supervisors

Elaine Evans, Chair 570.842.7032
Scott Jordan 570.983.8682
Charles Stout 570.842.4303

Roadmaster

Scott Jordan 570.983.8682

Secretary/Treasurer

Kim Grab 570.842.4273

Real Estate Tax Collector

Tammara Berry 570.472.2266

Wage Tax Collector

Berkheimer Agency 866.701.7206

Sewage Enforcement Officer

Will Evans 570.842.7032

Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer

Joe Brady 570.236.6313

Building Inspector

Building Inspector Underwriters
George Stefanski 570.290.0996

Constable

Jeffrey LeClair 570.650.1122

Auditors

Michelle Jordan
Ken Kaspriskie
Candice Dibble

Planning Commission

Will Evans, Chair 570.842.7032
Bonnie Smith, Vice-Chair 570.472.3274
Frank Repholz, Jr.
Joseph Ritz
Patricia Wincek

Zoning Hearing Board

Joseph Kasulaitis, Chair 570.842.6524
David Bentler
Donald Wombacker

Emergency Management Coordinators

James Howley 570.842.9412
Scott Jordan 570.983.8682

Newsletter & Website Editor

Chris Carroll 570.575.3028

Annual Newsletter Info. Deadline: February 1st
Submit items to: Thornhurst356@gmail.com

A Message from the Thornhurst Township Board of Supervisors

Several years ago the Township purchased an historic building previously occupied by St. Mark's Catholic Church. The structure along River Road next to the Thornhurst Fire Company building was built in 1870. The plan to convert this structure to a community building is now underway and includes paving the fire house property. The bid request for the paving is being released and the necessary ordinance for the initial steps in the church/community building project is in review. Both of these projects are the result of the grant obtained last year in cooperation with the Fire Company through Local Share Account funds. We have been very fortunate to secure a grant to assist in this project.

The community park project on Old River Road is being separated into individual elements. The breakout will allow for advancing the project in financially manageable steps. One of the most costly elements was the fill requirements. This need was estimated in hundreds of thousands of dollars. Fortunately, over a long period of time, clean fill was obtained without cost. The members of the group North Pocono CARE will work on the breakout elements to be addressed. If anyone else is interested in participating, please contact any of the Supervisors.

Throughout the year many residents perform works that affect the quality of everyone's enjoyment of our beautiful surroundings. The Pat Wincek-Nancy Ritz team has for years led the work and coordination necessary to clean up and maintain the local cemetery. This is an act of love to preserve both township and family history. The Memorial Day celebration at the cemetery should be a must for all residents. It is an example of community involvement at its best. Pat Wincek, with time on her hands left over from work, family and cemetery duties has also researched and purchased post cards, photos, and other Thornhurst memorabilia for public display.

Joe Kasulaitis and the volunteers who work the annual road clean-up every Spring perform a community service, and welcome additional help. Bonnie Smith and members of the North Pocono CARE group watch and take action on environmental issues affecting the land and waterways in the community, critical elements to maintaining a healthy environment. The Thornhurst Volunteer Fire Company and its organizations are critical to life and property. The Township wishes to thank all members of the Fire Company, Ambulance Squad and Auxiliary for their continued service to the community. The culinary skills of Nancy and Ron Contard are a big assist to these organization's fundraising efforts. We are a very fortunate community to have so many individuals sharing their talents and hard work. For a truly entertaining event, plan to participate in or attend the Michelle and Scott Jordan's Annual Fourth of July Red Neck Parade!

Township Meeting Dates & Times

The Planning Commission meets at 7pm on the first Tuesday of March, May, September and November, with additional meetings as needed. The Board of Supervisors meets at 7:30pm on the second Thursday of each month. Both meetings are held at the Township Building on Old River Road.

Public notices and meeting changes are published in *The Moscow Villager*. Information about local events and other township news or activities is posted on the bulletin board outside of the building.

North Pocono Food Pantry

The NP Food Pantry and Dry Goods Pantry are located in the Shop-Rite Plaza in Daleville behind the ice cream shop. They are both open every Thursday from 11:30am - 1pm. They are also open the first Wednesday of each month from 5-7pm. This time is only for the working poor, who must show proof of employment. For more info, or to determine eligibility for these services, call 570.842.4741.

Annual Redneck 4th of July Parade

The 12th Annual Redneck 4th of July Parade will be held on Thursday, July 4 at 2pm, beginning at the corner of Pine Grove and Bear Lake Roads, and will continue on Old River Road back to Pine Grove Road. Line up for participants will begin at 1pm on Pine Grove Road. Any reliable mode of transportation is allowable. Floats and costumes are highly encouraged. Show your community spirit!

Township residents and friends have enjoyed participating in and watching such a great community event. In order for this event to continue being held, participants must stay in line at all times. Misbehavior will not be tolerated and offenders will be removed from the parade line. Call Scott Jordan for details at 570.983.8682.

Thornhurst Historical Committee

The Thornhurst Historical Committee is interested in collecting old photos, postcards, and memorabilia about the community. Call Pat Wincek at 570.842.3353 if you have items or information to share.

Pine Grove Cemetery News

All residents are invited to attend the 12th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the cemetery on Monday, May 27 at 11am, weather permitting. Refreshments will be served outdoors immediately following the ceremony. Cookie donations are welcome. Memorabilia relating to Thornhurst is also available for viewing at this event. In preparation for the ceremony, a clean-up will be held on May 18 at 10 AM (raindate is May 25). Please remove all seasonal decorations. Anyone interested in helping with the clean-up or ceremony, call Pat Wincek at 570.842.3353.

History of Thornhurst Published

Long-time resident Jim Howley is the author of *Thornhurst and the Upper Lehigh River*, a compilation of stories about early industry in Thornhurst and the surrounding communities along the river. Originally published in 2001, the book is on its third printing and contains additional content, including photos. To purchase the book, contact Jim at 570.842.9412. The cost is \$30.00.

Lackawanna County Area Agency on Aging

The Area Agency on Aging is an advocate for the rights of older adults and adults with disabilities. The following services are available: Home-delivered Meals, Adult Day Care, In-home Personal Care, Personal Emergency Response Systems, and Chore Services (includes minor renovations to help safeguard people inside their homes). To qualify for In-home Care options, residents must present a need and be financially eligible. Some cases may qualify for partial eligibility. For more information, contact the Area Agency on Aging at 570.963.6740.

Transportation for Residents with Disabilities

Reduced fare transportation may be available for persons with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act, if ages 18-64, and a resident of Lackawanna County. Fare is free for those age 65 and over; ages 18-64 are reduced fare. Applications are available by mail from Lackawanna County Coordinated Transportation System, 800 North/South Road, Scranton, PA 18504, or by calling the office at 570.963.6795.

Library Bookmobile Service

The Lackawanna County Library System's Bookmobile will visit Thornhurst every fourth Thursday in 2019 beginning on March 7 at the Thornhurst Fire House from approximately 2-4pm. Call 570.348.3000 ext. 3000 to request or renew materials and include your phone number and your Bookmobile stop in the message. You may also request or renew materials online at www.lclshome.org/bookmobile.

St. Mark's Roman Catholic Church News

Mass is celebrated Saturdays at 4pm with confessions heard at 3:30pm or upon request. The Mass schedule changes to Saturdays at 4pm and Sundays at 8:30am from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

For more information about events or schedules, call 570.472.3061 or email stelimar@ptd.net. Visit www.churchofstelizabethstmark.org.

Thornhurst United Methodist Church News

Worship Service & Meeting Schedule

Sundays at 9am: Worship Service

UMW (no meetings Jan., Feb. or March)
2nd Wednesday of every month at 7pm

Sunday Fellowship, Food & Fun
4th Sunday of every month at 1pm

2019 Calendar of Events

March Easter Eggs (while supplies last)
Cost: \$5.00/Box of 6 eggs
Peanut Butter, Butter Cream
or Coconut Cream

April 13 Pork 'N' Kraut Dinner 4-7pm
& Oct. 12 Cost: \$10.00

July 27 Blueberry Festival 9am-3pm

Nov. 30 Christmas Bazaar 9am-3pm

Call 570.842.1434 or 570.842.9350 for info.
Email: ThornhurstUMC@gmail.com

United States Census 2020

Your help is needed! 2020 Census jobs provide great pay, weekly pay, flexible hours, and paid training. Salaries range from \$14.50 to \$20.00 per hour. Field staff will be reimbursed at 58 cents per mile when using their privately owned vehicle to conduct official census duties.

Census Field Supervisor	\$17.50-\$20.00
Office Operations Supervisor	\$18.50
Enumerator	\$16.00-\$18.00
Clerk	\$14.50

Apply online today at 2020census.gov/jobs
or call 1.855.JOB.2020.

North Pocono CARE - Protecting the Lehigh River Headwaters

North Pocono CARE was formed more than 20 years ago to address threats to the pristine water quality of the Lehigh River. It has worked successfully to combat pollution from sewage plants, industrial parks, and other sources, and it has put in place the highest level of protection for the Lehigh River and its tributaries, as Exceptional Value waters. It is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization, with teams testing water quality, addressing threats to clean water, working on grants, and providing community environmental programs. Input and participation from residents of Thornhurst Township and the surrounding townships are always welcome.

This year, NPC has scheduled a planting along Choke Creek, following our successful planting along Ash Creek in 2018. These plantings, when mature, will protect against erosion and provide shade to the streams at the PPL power line cut. Join your neighbors for this fun and fruitful event! See details below.

All programs are listed below. For updates, check the Thornhurst Bulletin Board at the Township Building. For more information, contact Bonnie Smith at 570.472.3274 or e-mail NPCARE@att.net. All programs are free and open to the public.

New members are always welcome. Meetings will be held on March 18, May 20, August 19, and November 18 in the Township Building at 7pm. For membership information, visit www.northpoconocare.org. NPC needs your support!

2019 Program Schedule

May 4 - Give Choke Creek Some Shade! Join others in planting a streamside buffer along beautiful Choke Creek in the Pinchot State Forest and State Game Lands 91 at the power line crossing. Meet at the parking area on Phelps Road and the trail to Choke Creek Falls at 12pm. Rain date is May 11. Bring gloves and a shovel or digging iron. Lunch and water provided. Great program for kids!

June 17 - Birds, Buffers and Building Our Natural Legacy. Join Birdman Darryl Speicher and our land trusts to talk about the beauty of protecting land in the Poconos. Thornhurst Fire House, 7pm.

July 15 - Marvelous Macroinvertebrates (Bugs!) in the Lehigh River. Biologist Joseph Kasulaitis will lead us in finding and identifying the bugs that fish eat! Wincek Residence, 610 Old River Road, Thornhurst, 6pm. Bring wading shoes and a towel. Great program for kids!

Sept. 16 - What Happens to Stormwater and Snow Melt? Rich Troscianecki, Master Watershed Steward, will present A Homeowner's Guide to Stormwater, giving practical tips and techniques for managing stormwater and snow melt at home. Township Building, 7pm.

Oct. 14 - Creatures of the Night! Pocono Wildlife Rehabilitation and Education Center will bring owls, skunks, opossums and other live animals for you to experience up close. Thornhurst Fire House, 7pm. Great program for kids!

Dec. 16 - Holiday Gathering. The community is invited to an open house to celebrate the season. Potluck snacks and desserts. Township Building, 7-9pm.

North Pocono Cultural Society Annual Thornhurst/Clifton Township Summer Special

The Lennoxville Band will perform at the Thornhurst Volunteer Fire Co. on August 11 from 5-8pm. The kitchen will open at 4pm. The Auxiliary will sell desserts. This is a free-will offering event to benefit the Cultural Society's scholarship fund.

New members and ideas are welcome at the regular monthly meetings held at 7pm on the second Monday of each month at the Moscow Borough Building. NPC's mission is providing educational, cultural and artistic events in the North Pocono Community. For more info, email moscowarts2@yahoo.com.

Thornhurst Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co.

2019 Calendar of Events

The following events are organized by members of the Thornhurst Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co., Ambulance Squad, and Auxiliary.

Please help support the community through these fundraising efforts:

APRIL

13	Hoagie Sale (FIRE)	6am-2pm
14	Kids Easter Party (AUX)	12-2pm

MAY

4	Night @ the Races (AUX) BYOB (Kitchen Not Open)	6-10pm
---	--	--------

JUNE

15	Tech & Tools BINGO (FIRE)	6-10pm
----	---------------------------	--------

JULY

20	Designer Purse BINGO (AUX)	6-10pm
----	----------------------------	--------

SEPTEMBER

27	Paint & Chat (AUX)	7-9pm
----	--------------------	-------

OCTOBER

26	Kids Halloween Party (AUX)	6-8pm
----	----------------------------	-------

NOVEMBER

23	Santa Run (FIRE)	10am-2pm
----	------------------	----------

DECEMBER

3	American Red Cross Blood Drive	2-7pm
14	Kids Christmas Party (AUX)	10am-12pm

The Fire Company is in desperate need of volunteers for the Auxiliary, Fire and EMS. Without new members, these events may not be able to be offered in the future. Please consider donating your time and talents!

Contact:

Holly Kasulaitis
Co-Captain - Thornhurst Ambulance
Trustee - Thornhurst Volunteer Fire Co.

570.842.2335 Station
EMS54KR@ptd.net