



A Newsletter for Residents & Friends of Thornhurst, Pennsylvania

March 2020

Spotted Lanternfly Alert

Submitted by Thornhurst Resident, Ashley Peterson

Over the years numerous non-native insect species have contributed to the change of forests and their ecosystems. One that is new to the U.S. and discovered in Berks County, PA in 2014, is the spotted lanternfly, a colorful mothlike insect native to China, India, and Vietnam. It has spread to 14 counties, including our close neighbor, Monroe County. These counties are under quarantine, which prohibits movement of articles out of the counties including tree, brush and yard debris, construction waste, nursery stock, recreational vehicles, mowers, grills, and stone.

The spotted lanternfly feeds on over 70 trees and plants, including grapevines, fruit and hardwood trees and can drastically alter Pennsylvania's native plant and forest diversity. It's affects can ruin various aspects of our state economy, including grape growing, hardwood exporting, fruit production, and others.

Sightings of the spotted lanternfly need to be reported to the Penn State extension on their website or call 1-888-422-3359, or take a picture and send it with your location. This is important since Monroe County is such a short distance away.

The spotted lanternfly's egg masses hatch in summer as wingless nymphs resembling ants and are black with white spots. They turn red with black and white patches, then molt into adults from July through September. The adult is a pretty insect with a wing spread of one inch, gray wings with black spots and bright red underwings.

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture experts have been heavily involved in studying the spotted lanternfly in collaboration with scientists in Asia to learn how to slow, and possibly stop, the insect from potentially causing catastrophic damage to forests and industries that rely on the lanternfly's preferred plants, but they need the public's help in detecting and reporting local findings.

Pinchot State Forest Update

What a beautiful forest you have in your backyard! The Pinchot State 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.

Visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us to view the Calendar of Events for upcoming interpretive programs in the District or call 570.945.7133. Hours are Monday through Friday 8am - 4pm. To register as a conservation volunteer, visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us.

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

Take Pride in Our Community

Dumpsters Days May 14 - 16

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 \$2.50 and tractor trailer tires are \$8.00. 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.

Road Cleanup Cancelled

Amid concerns about the potential spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful and its partners, the Pennsylvania Departments of Environmental Protection and Transportation and Pennsylvania Waste Industries Association, are suspending their annual litter cleanup program, Pick Up Pennsylvania. Due to this, there will be no scheduled road cleanup this year.



The spotted lanternfly is costing the Pennsylvania economy about \$50 million and eliminating nearly 500 jobs each year, according to a Penn State study released in January 2020.

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
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Secretary/Treasurer

Kim Grab	570.842.4273
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Real Estate Tax Collector

Tammara Berry	570.472.2266
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Wage Tax Collector

Berkheimer Agency	866.701.7206
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Sewage Enforcement Officer

Will Evans	570.842.7032
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Zoning & Code Enforcement Officer

George Stefanski	570.290.0996
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Building Inspector

Building Inspector Underwriters	
George Stefanski	570.290.0996

Constable

Jeffrey LeClair	570.650.1122
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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.	
David Berry	
Patricia Wincek	

Zoning Hearing Board

Joseph Kasulaitis, Chair	570.842.6524
Donald Wombacker	
Bob Hayward	

Emergency Management Coordinators

James Howley	570.842.9412
Scott Jordan	570.983.8682

Newsletter & Website Editor

Chris Carroll	570.575.3028
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Annual Newsletter Info. Deadline: February 1st
Submit items to: Thornhurst356@gmail.com

A Message from the Thornhurst Township Board of Supervisors

Our community is struggling to staff our volunteer organizations, i.e., the Thornhurst Fire Company and the Ambulance. This is a problem for many small communities that have and are relying on community volunteers. These organizations provide critical services to our small rural community. If anyone has ever thought of joining one of these organizations now is the time to step up. Obviously, a commitment of time is necessary and initially the greatest amount will involve training. Please consider donating your time and talents in these organizations.

The old church project is awaiting Department of Environmental Protection approval on an element of the renovation. The architect is in the process of completing the plans for the building. Volunteers willing to give input on this project as it proceeds are also welcome.

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 *Tri-County Independent*. Information about local events and other township news or activities is posted on the bulletin board outside of the building.

North Pocono Senior Center

The North Pocono Senior Center offer activities including Bingo and a Bingo dinner, Pinochle tournaments and lessons, Dominoes and lessons, Red Hat meetings, Holiday parties, brunch and more for adults 55 years and older. All are welcome.

The Senior Center is open every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9am-2pm (unless otherwise noted). If the North Pocono School District is closed or delayed due to bad weather, then the Center will be closed.

Transportation and detailed information on the schedule of events can be obtained by calling 570.843.6485. The Senior Center is located at 10 Moffat Drive in Covington Township.

Clothes Closet

The Clothes Closet is sponsored by a mission of the Daleville United Methodist Church. Free clothing is available for men, women and children in Bill's Shopping Plaza next to the laundromat. Donations of new or gently used, clean clothing and shoes will be appreciated and accepted during open hours.

Hours: Thursdays 11am-1:30pm & Saturdays 11am-1pm.

For clothing needed in emergency situations, leave a message at 570.842.6776.

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 Saturday, 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 13th Annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the cemetery on Monday, May 25 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 17 at 1pm. Please remove all seasonal decorations. Anyone interested in helping with the clean-up or ceremony, call Jim Learn at 570.905.0364.

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 5 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 3:45pm 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

Worship Service: Sundays at 9am
Bible Study: after Service at 10:15am

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

2020 Calendar of Events

April 25	Pork 'N' Kraut Dinner Cost: \$10.00	4-7pm
July 25	Blueberry Festival, Flea Market, Vendors & Food Available	9am-2pm
Oct. 10	Pork 'N' Kraut Dinner Cost: \$10.00	4-7pm
Nov. 21	Christmas Bazaar Christmas Items & Food	9am-3pm

Call 570.842.1434 or 570.842.9350 for info.
Rev. Donald DeGroat 570.646.9298
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 at www.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.

The Lehigh River is the lifeblood of our community, and the abundant forests and wetlands are critical to protecting its water quality. It provides exceptional fishing, swimming, and boating as well as clean drinking water for all. It is our goal to maintain this wonderful resource for future generations.

For 2020, NPC will offer a variety of free programs, open to all. For updates, check the Thornhurst Bulletin Board. For more information, call Bonnie Smith at 570.472.3274, Joan Halle at 570.842.9120, or e-mail NPCARE@att.net.

New members are always welcome. Regular meetings will be held on March 16, May 18, August 17, and November 16 in the Thornhurst Township Building at 7 PM. For membership information, go to www.northpoconocare.org. NPC needs your support!

2020 Program Schedule

April 20 - What's Happening under the Transmission Lines? We'll be welcoming PPL foresters as well as state foresters to find out how plants and animals have responded to the clearings and our plantings. Township Building, 7 PM.

June 6 - A Saturday Walk at the Thomas Darling Preserve in Blakeslee with herbalist Nathaniel Whitmore will interest all outdoor enthusiasts! Meet at the trailhead on Burger Road, off Route 115 at 10 AM.

July 20 - 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, 6 PM. Bring wading shoes and a towel. Great program for kids!

Sept. 21 - What's with Those Insects? Find out from the experts the latest on invasive insects and what we can do to protect our plants and trees. Township Building, 7 PM.

Oct. 12 - Wildlife Around Us. Angela and Shane of Second Chance Wildlife Center will bring several native animals to help people of all ages gain a better understanding of wildlife and how we should safely interact with our wild neighbors. Thornhurst Fire House, 351 Old River Rd., 7 PM. Great program for kids!

Dec. 14 - Holiday Gathering. The community is invited to an open house to celebrate the season. Potluck snacks and desserts. Township Building, 5 - 7:30 PM.

North Pocono Cultural Society

The North Pocono Cultural Society will hold the 2020 Moscow Country Street Fair on August 7, 8 and 9. Vendor applications may be obtained via the website.

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.

NPCS's mission is providing educational, cultural and artistic events in the North Pocono Community. For more information, visit www.northpoconoculturalsociety.org.

Thornhurst Volunteer Fire & Rescue Co.

2020 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.

Due to the threat of the Coronavirus, these events are subject to change.

APRIL

5	Kids Easter Party (AUX)	12-2pm
18	Hoagie Sale (FIRE)	6am-2pm

MAY

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

20	Tech & Tools BINGO (FIRE)	6-10pm
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JULY

25	Designer Purse BINGO (AUX)	6-10pm
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SEPTEMBER

5	Gun BINGO (FIRE)	4-6pm
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OCTOBER

24	Kids Halloween Party (AUX)	6-8pm
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NOVEMBER

21	Santa Run (FIRE)	10am-2pm
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DECEMBER

12	Kids Christmas Party (AUX)	10am-12pm
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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