

# CAERNARVON NEWS

BERKS COUNTY

Fall 2018



3307 Main Street  
Morgantown, PA 19543-0294

[www.caernarvon.org](http://www.caernarvon.org)  
Phone: 610-286-1010

## Public Works News



### Fall/Winter Maintenance Operations

Winter season is upon us and will bring winter precipitation and property maintenance challenges for everyone. Please allow extra time for travel during winter weather events.

**Sidewalk Clearing** – Residents are reminded that Township Ordinance No 167 contains information on sidewalk clearing requirements in the Township. The Ordinance states “depositing snow from any driveway or sidewalk into the street is prohibited”.

**Parking During Winter Weather** – Ordinance No 223 prohibits parking on all Township streets during any winter weather event.

**Trash/Recycling Receptacles** – Please do not place trash and recycling receptacles in the street for pick up, they should remain behind the curb line or in residential driveways. **When placed in the street they provide another obstacle for crews plowing snow or performing street work.**

**PLEASE REPORT ANY ROAD/MAINTENANCE ISSUES  
TO (610) 286-1016**

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Public Works News	1
Police Department	1-2
Caernarvon Township Calendar of Events	2
Morgantown History	3
Parks & Recreation	3
Township Officials	4



**John Scalia, Chief**

**FOR AN EMERGENCY, DIAL 911**  
*For Non-emergency, call 610-286-1012*

Instead of talking about one subject in this newsletter let's cover several different but important issues this time.

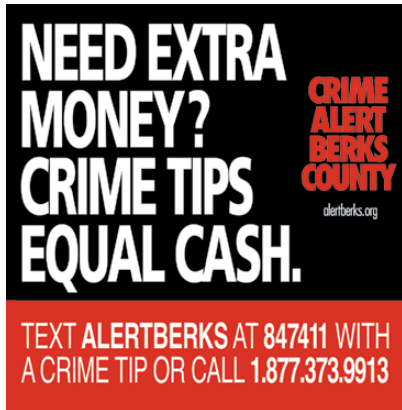
**House numbering:** Lots of folks don't think about this issue and it could prove vital to you or a family member's life. Please make sure your house number is visible from the street or road. Make sure it is contrasting and reflective if possible. This could save precious moments during an emergency when you need police, fire or ambulance. It doesn't cost a pile of money to make sure you can be seen in an emergency.



Our goal is to keep the Caernarvon Township residents well informed of upcoming events and important news through the quarterly newsletters. Copies will be distributed throughout the community at locations such as the Village Library, the Joanna Store, the Heritage Restaurant, Styer Insurance Agency, Inc., Clair's Family Restaurant, State Farm Insurance, Caernarvon Township Authority, Morgantown Coffee Shop, Doug's Pharmacy, and Twin Valley Coffee. Copies can also be found on our website, [www.caernarvon.org](http://www.caernarvon.org).

**Chief of Police Message - Continued**

**Crime Tips:** If you have a crime tip please call it in. Lots of people like to remain anonymous but do want to help. We understand that. If you have a tip then call crime alert if you do not want to talk to us directly. You might even earn a buck or two.



**Get Important News Fast,  
Download the CRIMEWATCH App!**

Caernarvon Township now has the ability to send the community emergency and important information via “push” notifications to your phone and e-mails. This may include road closures, flooding, snow and police information.

Download the CRIMEWATCH App and make Caernarvon Township your “home” Police Department. You may have to enable “push” and e-mail notifications. Please note, if you already had the CRIMEWATCH app, you MUST delete it from your phone and reinstall the new app in order for notifications to work. See the links below:

**For Android:**

[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.crimewatchus.CRIMEWATCH&hl=en\\_US](https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.crimewatchus.CRIMEWATCH&hl=en_US)

**For iPhone:**

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/crimewatch-mobile/id875155204?mt=8>

**Caernarvon Township  
Calendar of Events:**



- \* November 22nd & 23rd – Thanksgiving Holiday
- \* December 1<sup>st</sup> - Township Holiday Celebration
- \* December 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Holiday
- \* January 1<sup>st</sup> – New Year’s Holiday

**Reminder** - Township Supervisors’ meetings are held 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Township building. The public is welcome to attend.

**Note:** Effective January 2018, Planning Commission meetings will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm.

**MEDICATION DISPOSAL**

The Police Department has a Medication Drop Box located in the lobby of the Township Building. The purpose of the box is to enable anyone to dispose of, in a safe manner, any expired or unwanted medication they might have lying around. You should leave the medication in its original container and black out your name from the bottle with a marker.

**WE DO NOT TAKE: NEEDLES or LANCES, Bio-Hazard Waste, Aerosol Cans, Inhalers, Liquids.**

## DID YOU KNOW?

**Township residents are encouraged to stop by the Township building to see paintings and other historical items on display by the Tri County Historical Society.**

### **FEATURED DRAWING (by Jere Brady) Fingal's Castle, 1750's**



One story tells that a group of French people arrived at an inn in the village of Morgantown with questions about the area.

It seems like many of the French aristocracy living in luxury, gave little thought of the poverty around them, but some were suspicious of a possible upcoming revolution and wanted to set up a safe environment in America. Much of Pennsylvania landscape is similar to France.

Soon a castle was built with surrounding cottages. Strangely, after some time this community disappeared as quickly as it came.

Fingal Castle's property is verified on old 1750's tax records. Old maps show the location of the castle near the western boundary of Caernarvon Township in Berks County, Pennsylvania.

George Lyman Beam (1874-1957) remembers his boyhood friend raised by his single mother lived in the ruins of the castle. Even as a child, George was fascinated with the huge impressive doors. He remembers Fingal being pronounced feen-ga. That pronunciation might verify it was French. Four Wertz sisters and Bill Rodgers also lived in a section of the ruins. Years later, despite most of the castle being gone, many flowers still dotted the landscape such as daffodils and other perennials but soon the area became overgrown by trees, weeds and vines.

A 1750's map shows the property owned by Peter Fingal Finrock. Caernarvon Township had many German descendants and Finrock was a nickname of a wealthy man literally meaning – the owner of five coats ~ finf – five and roc – coat or skirt. Interestingly, Fingal is also an Irish name meaning foreign tribe. A man by the name of Fingal was an Irish hero.

As far as the appearance, information mentions that the castle started with a two story log cabin and not long after, large elaborate stone ends were added. Thereafter, many small homes were built nearby the castle. Sitting on the top of the hill, it was obviously an impressive sight. The community consisted of people, cattle, horses, a race track and a pond. It is suggested that it was somewhat like a feudal community with the grand castle housing the noble's family with their servants surrounded with peasants' huts. Some of the cottages were still in use until 1930's. I-176 highway went through that property.

*Jere's interest was initiated by first reading the castle article in C.Z. Mast's publication of Annals of Conestoga Valley.*



### **Township Community Holiday Celebration:**

Join us for the Community Holiday Celebration! Come see Santa and model trains. Play games and more on Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup> starting at 10 am in the Social Hall of the Township Building. Bring your camera for pictures with Santa.

Please consider bringing a new, unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots collection box. Thank you!





## TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS

### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Allen Styer III, Chairperson (2022)  
 Paul Whiteman Jr., Vice Chairperson (2020)  
 Sandy Styer (2020)  
 Jack Hess (2022)  
 Jeff Vickers (2024)

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Sean Zerbey, Chairperson  
 Donna Jeffery  
 Roger Keith  
 Allen Styer III  
 Brian Licitra (Alternate)

### ZONING HEARING BOARD

John Malm, Chairperson  
 David Anspach  
 Brian Falcon  
 Brian Fraley  
 Eugenia Papst  
 Raymond Redner (Alternate)  
 Gregory Shantz (Alternate)

### PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

John Conlow, Chairperson  
 Colt Grazioli, Vice Chairperson  
 Nora Filmore  
 Mazie Holland  
 Dan Jeffery  
 Frank Payne  
 Terri Payne

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

John Scalia, Chief  
 Matthew Menna, Sergeant  
 Chad Eberly (Detective Corporal)  
 Thomas Brecker  
 Melissa Seidel  
 William Smith  
 Kyle Tranovich  
 Cole Burkhart (part time)  
 Courtenay Delaney (part time)  
 Joseph Carboni (part time)  
 Teresa Peifer (Secretary)