



# The Milemarker

EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP

VOLUME 12, NUMBER 3  
WWW.EBRANDYWINE.ORG



The volunteer members of the East Brandywine Fire Company have taken pride in protecting our community for 50 years. Current active emergency personnel are shown above. Back row (from left): Greg Dawson, Dale Guyer, Marc Crusemire, Rick DeMarse, Bruce Anderson, Todd Shaffer, Everett Carpenter Jr., Clair Whiteman, Jim Witmer, Bob Zynn, Mike Conlan, Brian Arters, John Spencer, Kevin Shaffer, Andrew Young, Victor Wallace, Bob Young. Front row (from left): Scott Piersol, Shad Sutliff, Corey Mortzfield, Daniel Ciarlone, Patrick Ferry, Ed Ranck Jr., Daniel Fling, Jonathan Carter, Jenna Shaffer. Not pictured: Joe Edwards, Sean Gordon, Tom Headman, Brian Hughes, Brent King, Jeff McCarty, Rich O’Niell, Chris Ott, Gerold Rocker, Matthew Van Lew, Asa Van Lew, Chris Wagner.

## Salute to Unsung Community Heroes

### East Brandywine Fire Company, Station 49, Celebrates its 50th

Statewide, volunteer fire companies are a vanishing breed. Thirty years ago there were some 300,000 volunteer firefighters in Pennsylvania; today there are about 72,000. Given this bleak statistic, residents should rejoice that they still have an active, engaged and skilled fire company. In 50 years of existence its members have answered thousands of calls to put out fires, help accident victims and deal with medical emergencies.

It’s done all this work without requiring residents to pay a single dollar.

Consider for a moment what a bargain that is for everyone living in our community. Under state law, the Township may impose a fire tax of up to 3 mills, namely \$1 for every \$1,000 of real estate—or, to put it another way, \$350 a year for every house valued at \$350,000. No one is saying that big a tax is likely but the

beginning of at least a small fire tax may be inevitable. These days it costs more

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### Important Dates

#### August 20

The East Brandywine Fire Company 49 plans a high-voltage fireworks display in the Community Park. 9:30 p.m.

#### October 6

Fire Company will host its annual Fire Prevention Open House at the fire hall on Bondsville Road. 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. All residents welcome. Fire equipment displays, special rewards for children, light refreshments.

## Who, When & Where

### Township Board of Supervisors

David A Kirkner, CPA, Chairman  
Jay G. Fischer, Esq., Vice Chairman  
Hudson L. Voltz, Esq., Member

### Township Public Meetings

#### BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

First Thursday at 7:30 a.m.  
Third Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

#### PLANNING COMMISSION

First Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

#### MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Second Tuesday at 7:30 a.m.

#### TOWNSHIP ORDINANCE FORCE

Fourth Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

All meetings at the East Brandywine Fire Company, 2096 Bondsville Road.

### Important Numbers

Fire and Ambulance ..... 911  
Police (emergency) ..... 911  
Police (non-emergency) ..... 383-7000  
Poison Control ..... (215) 386-2100  
Police Administration ..... 269-4300  
Police FAX ..... 873-4550  
Township Administration ..... 269-8230  
Township FAX ..... 269-4157  
Website ..... [www.ebrandywine.org](http://www.ebrandywine.org)

Township Offices open M–F  
9 a.m.–noon and 1–5 p.m.

### Telephone Directory

The Township Directory is available from any touch-tone phone 24 hours a day. Just call 269-8230 and press one of the extensions shown.

### Township Staff Directory

200 Norann King,  
Receptionist and Building Dept.  
201 Mary Beth Smedley,  
Secretary/Treasurer  
203 Scott Piersol,  
Manager/EMC/Fire Marshal  
204 Matthew Van Lew, Roadmaster  
210 Patti Piersol,  
Tax Collector (Voice Mail)  
100 Police Administration

### Township Information Directory

Due to the recent relocation of Township offices, the Township Information Directory is currently unavailable. The Directory will be back up and running in the near future.



This float was part of East Brandywine's entry Saturday August 31, 1996 in a parade in East Caln Township celebrating the dedication of new apparatus for the Minquas Fire Company. Current firefighter Daniel Fling is shown driving this "tiller" ladder truck.

## Fire Company Celebrates 50th

*(continued from page 1)*

than \$200,000 to operate the fire department each year—and that's without having to meet a payroll. Equipment alone is valued at around \$1.6 million.

The remarkable success of the East Brandywine Fire Company, Station 49 (which also provides coverage for West Brandywine and Upper Uwchlan Townships) is underwritten by an equally remarkable combination of pride, friendship, commitment and belief in the value of community life. The 20-plus active members are forever on call, they meet weekly for training, and update themselves regularly on new firefighting and rescue techniques. They also carry their safety message to local schools.

Those in charge don't have an easy task attracting new members. When the company was formed in 1955 there were many full-time farmers in the Township. It was generally practical for them to drop everything when the siren sounded and head for the fire station. For people with

regular 9-to-5 jobs, it's not that easy to walk out of work at a moment's notice and perhaps be away for two or three hours. According to 80-year-old Harold Thompson, one of the earliest fire chiefs who was active in company activities for 30 years, the fire station's no alcohol rule (stipulated by owner John Frazer when he sold the fire company the land for its Bondsville Road base) helps bring in younger members. "If there was drink at the fire house they wouldn't be able to work there," he explains.

As the EBFC celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> birthday, it looks back on many eventful years. Its birth was a matter of necessity. Two devastating fires—one at the Bryant grocery store on Horseshoe Pike (the location now occupied by Brandywine General Rental), and the other at the former McFarlan farm on Buck Road—ragged out of hand because the existing Downingtown and Coatesville fire companies didn't know which one should show up. Upset by the slow (eventual) response, in the spring of 1955 a group of local residents agreed that the Township should have its own fire company. By the

*(continued on page 3)*

# Fire Company Celebrates 50th

*(continued from page 2)*

end of the year they'd drawn up a charter and on April 12, 1956, the East Brandywine Fire Company held its first monthly meeting. It had \$118 in the bank and operated its very limited equipment out of Ed Russell's Garage, an old machine shop in the center of Guthriesville, now the site of Gary's Auto Body. There was no phone, so the Frazer Feed Store took emergency fire calls.

The company moved to its own custom-built fire station on Bondsville Road in 1962, in time adding more bays and equipment rooms and then the large banquet hall that doubles as a polling station on election days. The apparatus started with a 1956 Chevy pumper that cost \$15,173. Apparatus has become increasingly sophisticated over the years. The most recent major purchase, Engine 49, last year cost \$550,000 fully equipped. Another big difference: today, a firefighter's protective gear is much more sophisticated than it was 50 years ago.

More notable than the physical space or the equipment are the people who have made and continue to make this showpiece operation work. Certain family names recur again and again in meeting minutes and news reports: Lammey, McCarty, McCausland, Piersol, Rambo, Thomas, Thompson. But literally hundreds of others have

made significant contributions of time and effort. The Ladies Auxiliary is a continuing major force.

The Auxiliary plays multiple roles and the most important is raising money. These women (and men) have brought in many thousands of dollars with everything from antique shows to turkey fairs to chicken barbeques to flower sales. One of their most productive fund raisers is catering banquets for outside groups. Beverly McCarty, who has served as president of the Ladies Auxiliary on four separate occasions, says the Auxiliary cooks and serves between 30 and 35 of these banquets a year. The Auxiliary has about 90 members, about 15 of whom are active.

These activities bring in about 25% of the fire company's annual budget. Another 25% comes through a contribution from East Brandywine Township (and from West Brandywine and Upper Uwchlan Townships). The final 50% is from voluntary contributions by local residents who receive one and only one request for financial help each year through the Fire Company Fund Drive. Sadly, only about one resident in three comes through with any cash. One problem is that few people who've moved here from a location with a full-time fire department understand that such a thing as a totally volunteer department really exists. The hard way to find out is to have a fire, health or accident emergency. ■



Firefighters wait for water to their hose line before advancing into this burning structure. The fire started in the attic of this wood-shingle dwelling. Delayed notification to emergency services led to extensive damage to this structure. Make certain you know the street address, municipality and nearest intersecting street to assist emergency services arriving at the emergency scene quickly.

# The Year 1958

The fire company was just finding its feet in 1958 and its first chief, Nelson Bernardo (who served from 1956 to 1959), managed to summarize the year's activity on a single sheet of paper. Here's what he reported:

- 19 calls were answered. Nature of calls—1 barn, 6 homes, 1 tar drum, 10 woods and grass, 1 motorcycle
- A total of 258 men answered calls.
- 2,690 gallons of water were used in the extinguishing of fires
- 173 miles were traveled in answering calls
- Company was in service 26 hours and 25 minutes
- Pump on the fire truck was used 4 hours and 25 minutes

## Busier and Busier

During its first full year of operation, the fire company averaged fewer than one call a week. Last year, it averaged almost two calls a day. Some sample years and statistics:

Year	# of Calls
1957.....	33
1963.....	34
1970.....	32
1975.....	85
1980.....	333
1985.....	232
1988.....	405
1995.....	444
1999.....	865
2000.....	734
2001.....	747
2002.....	731
2003.....	698
2004.....	726



House fire from the early 1970's at an undisclosed location. This estimate is based on the firefighter's turnout gear and use of wooden ladders.

- Equipment used: 1½ in. hose—300 feet, Booster hose—2,375 feet, 166 feet of ladders were raised, 14 back tanks, 30 brooms, 1 ax, Crow bar twice, Hand lights 8 times
- Property loss—\$50,400
- Property at risk—\$91,300
- Calls in township—18
- Calls out of township—1
- Mutual aid from Downingtown—4 times
- Men and fire truck took part in four parades. West Chester, Pomeroy, Honey Brook, and Downingtown. Also took part in the Children's Day activities at Kerr Park, Downingtown.

In 2004, East Brandywine Fire Company answered 726 calls and traveled 3,316 miles. Fire equipment was in service for 210 hours and 39 minutes; the emergency medical unit was in service for 189 hours and 16 minutes. In other words, company personnel worked the equivalent of one full workday (7.67 hours) during every week of the year. In recent years, in any month the number of emergency medical calls answered by the

QRS or Quick Response Service typically exceeds the fire calls. One reason: fewer wood-burning fireplaces and hence fewer chimney fires. Former Fire Chief Harold Thompson (1961) recalls a time when residents often chopped and burned abandoned and creosote-soaked railroad ties, a ready recipe for an out-of-control fireplace fire. ■



Frazer's Feed Store fire, May of 1982. Shown are EBFC firefighters Dick Baker and Art Haldeman, with a Glen Moore firefighter, working to extinguish the blaze that damaged a significant part of a storage structure added to the original barn, circa late 1700's. The original structure was saved, and still stands today in Guthriesville.



Fire Police. From left: Jim Connor, Allan Cunningham, John Neff, Eileen Amatrudo, Faye Connor. Not pictured: Jim Jameson, Terri Jameson, Donald Bain, Tim Cunningham.

## Fowl Play?

The record does not show why turkey, succotash and mashed potatoes were standard fare in the early years at fire company annual banquets. People loved them? They were easy to cook? Who knows. Anyway, maybe it was too much of a good thing. After 12 years of this mix, roast beef finally showed up in 1967 and after one turkey return in 1969 the menu seemed to shift almost entirely to roast beef and ham. Ice cream and cake were reliable staples. Until it built its own banquet hall, the fire company held its annual feasts variously at fire houses in Honey Brook, Ludwigs Corner and Glenmoore.

Beverly McCarty, following her parents' example, became part of the fire company team shortly after her 1966 marriage (she did her first stint as Auxiliary president in 1966-67). She soon took over in the kitchen, added variety to the menus and put a stress on roast beef and ham. Stuffing turkeys was

too much trouble. In her early days, it was not unusual to have as many as 350 guests sitting down to dinner; to help her cope her mother-in-law bought her a book called "Cooking for Fifty." "I just multiplied by seven," she recalls. Later, when stricter fire codes came into effect, the maximum number of diners was reduced to about 250.

Even that number calls for a lot of spud peeling. But Mrs. McCarty shrugs off the achievement of peeling between 50 to 60 pounds of potatoes for a single meal. Long experience in this group catering business has given her good insights into how to cater to the needs of various groups. "Farmers and retired people are the big eaters" she says. "Potatoes and rolls are all a Boy Scout will eat." ■



From left: 2001 Chevrolet Suburban Command 49, 2004 Chevrolet Suburban Traffic 49, and our newest addition to the fleet, 2005 Chevrolet Suburban QRS 49 (Quick Response Service) that answers over 450 emergency medical calls a year.

## 2005 Officers

### 2005 Administration

#### Officers/Executive Committee

President: ..... Todd Shaffer  
 Vice-President: ..... Kevin Shaffer  
 Secretary: ..... Patti Piersol  
 Treasurer: ..... Scott Piersol  
 Trustees: ..... Michael Conlan  
    Robert Zynn, Jr.  
    Mike Whiteman  
    Dale Guyer  
    Robert Young

#### Membership

Secretary: ..... Jenna Shaffer  
 Fire Chief: ..... James Witmer  
 Fire Police Captain: ... John Neff III

### 2005 Auxiliary Administration Officers

President: ..... Jenna Shaffer  
 Secretary: ..... Cynthia McCarty  
 Treasurer: ..... Ruth Lammey  
 Trustees: ..... Beverly McCarty  
    Cynthia McCarty  
    Jenna Shaffer

#### Membership

Secretary: ..... Beverly McCarty  
 Chaplain: ..... Beverly Williams

### 2005 Fire Officer Staff

Fire Chief: ..... James Witmer  
 Deputy Chief: ..... Everett Carpenter, Jr.  
 Assistant Chief: ..... Robert Zynn, Jr.  
 Battalion Chief: ..... Michael Conlan  
 Ladder Captain: ..... Todd Shaffer  
 Engine Captain: ..... Brian Arters  
 Lieutenants: ..... Joe Edwards  
    Kevin Shaffer  
    Dale Guyer  
 QRS Captain: ..... Scott Piersol  
 Chief Engineer: ..... Asa Van Lew  
 Safety Officer: ..... Bruce Anderson  
 Fire Police Captain: ... John Neff III



# Support your local fire company

An easy way for you to support the East Brandywine Fire Company!

## Partnership Banking

Open a new account at DNB First and specify the East Brandywine Fire Company as your designated charity.

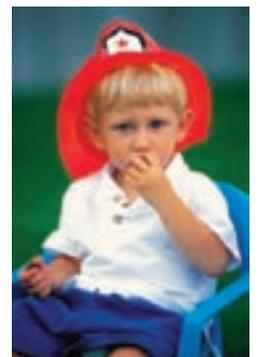
*It's that easy!*

DNB First will do the rest.



- DNB First will make a one time contribution based upon the number of new accounts opened and designated to the East Brandywine Fire Company.
- DNB First will make an annual (and perpetual) contribution to the East Brandywine Fire Company based upon the combined average balance of all the accounts designated. (Your account balance is not affected in any way and your account information remains private.)
- If you have an **existing account at DNB First**, contact them to specify the East Brandywine Fire Company as your designated charity.
- See brochures for details or call DNB First.

Offer may be changed or withdrawn at any time.



484-691-DNB1  
[www.dnbfirst.com](http://www.dnbfirst.com)

Member FDIC



Presented By:

East Brandywine Fire Company

August 20, 2005 – 9:30 p.m.

Rain date: August 21, 2005

East Brandywine Township Community Park

440 Dilworth Road

Pyrotechnics: Zambelli Fireworks Inc.

Thank You To The Following Sponsors:

Aqua Pennsylvania  
BJ's Wholesale Club  
Blue Moon Florist  
Brandywine Machine Company  
Brandywine Village Associates  
Countryside Kennels  
DNB First  
Daniel Arters, Jr.  
Dave Mendenhall  
E.M. Kutz, Inc.  
ESI Equipment, Inc.  
F.H. Swisher Plumbing  
Fulton Bank  
Flings Towing  
Glick Fire Equipment Company, Inc.  
Graves Uniforms  
Guthriesville Pharmacy  
Holmes, Simmons & Oswald, PC  
Ink's Disposal  
Joseph L. Higgins, Esquire

Keystone Volunteer Insurance Group  
Kimberlyn Nuelle, State Farm Agent  
L.W. Crossan Cabinetmaker  
Mackey & Kirkner  
Main Line Concrete  
Metropolitan Communications, Inc.  
Moser Builders  
Pepperidge Farm  
Protection Bureau  
Pulte Homes, Inc.  
Sam's Club/Walmart  
Sandy & Robert A. Zynn, Sr.  
Sanner Auto Wrechers & Sales, LLC  
The Firestore.com / Witmer Associates  
The Master's Touch Pest Control  
The Wright Agency  
Waterloo Gardens  
WAWA, Inc.  
Wegman's  
Wiggins Auto Tags

“Taking Pride In Protecting Our Community for 50 Years”

# Past Officers

## Past Presidents

- 1955-1966 Walter M. Crandall
- 1967-1986 John L. Piersol
- 1987-1991 Charles Thomas
- 1992-1995 Ron Rambo, Sr.
- 1996-2002 Mike Whiteman
- 2003-Present Todd W. Shaffer

## Past Chiefs

- 1956-1959 Nelson Bernardo
- 1960 Alan McCausland
- 1961 Harold Thompson
- 1962-1967 Chester Smith
- 1968 Sam Ayars 3/14/68
- 1968-1973 Chester Smith
- 1974-1979 Dr. Brent Follweiler
- 1980-1982 Ronald Rambo, Sr.
- 1983 Scott T. Piersol
- 1984-1985 Ronald Rambo, Sr.
- 1986-1987 Scott T. Piersol
- 1988-1990 Ronald Rambo, Sr.
- 1991-1993 John Smith
- 1994 James Witmer
- 1995-1997 John Smith
- 1998-2000 Brian Hughes
- 2001-2002 Everett Carpenter Jr.
- 2003-2005 James Witmer

## Past Ladies Auxiliary Presidents

- 1957-1959 Helen Frazer
- 1960 Betty Hadfield
- 1961-1962 Myra Thomas
- 1963 Pauline Moses
- 1964-1965 Dorothy "Dot" Piersol
- 1966-1967 Beverly McCarty
- 1968 Myra Thomas
- 1969-1970 Beverly McCarty
- 1971-1972 Helen Laird
- 1973-1974 Hazel Miller
- 1975-1976 Myra Thomas
- 1977 Nancy Zynn
- 1978 Hazel Miller
- 1979-1980 Corrine O'Neill
- 1981-1982 Kathryn Rambo
- 1983-1984 Myra Thomas
- 1985-1986 Alex Bareford
- 1987-1988 Beverly McCarty
- 1989-1992 Kathryn Rambo
- 1993-1994 Alex Bareford
- 1995-1996 Beverly McCarty
- 1997 Kathryn Rambo
- 1998-1999 Alex Bareford
- 2000-2001 Cindy McCarty
- 2002-Present Jenna Shaffer



Right from Hollywood, Ladder 49, a 1998 American LaFrance Eagle with a 2000 gallon per-minute pump holds 500 gallons of water, and has a 75 foot medium duty rear-mounted steel ladder.



Tanker 49, a 1991 Mack R690 chassis with a 750 gallon per-minute pump, holds 3000 gallons of water. Nicknamed "Dragon Fly," it Drags going up hills and Flies going down.



Engine 49, a 2004 Pierce Dash, has a six man cab, a 2000 gallon per-minute pump, and holds 750 gallons of water/30 gallons of Class A Foam. This Pumper replaced a 17 year old engine.

## Play Ball

The softball games between the East Brandywine Fire Company and the Brandywine Regional Police are pretty tense (and, at times, raucous) affairs with the police department the winner of the inaugural game last year. Softball has a long history with the firefighters. In May 1964 the membership agreed to sponsor a softball team. The meeting minutes record that President Walter M. Crandall told the members “we would have to replace the window panes at the school house since they were knocked out by our softball team.” At the same time, Spence Miller was appointed the team’s manager. ■

## Big Bucks

The assessed value of all residences in East Brandywine is currently \$363,811,960. If the Township were to impose the full 3 mill fire tax permitted by the state, the fire company would benefit yearly to the tune of \$1,069,215. There’s no immediate likelihood of a fire tax, but if the fire company reaches the point where it has to hire full-time personnel, that could change. Several Chester County fire companies—including those in Downingtown, Coatesville, West Chester and Phoenixville—already employ full-time paid drivers. Most companies providing ambulance service employ emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to supplement their volunteer staff, particularly during daytime hours. ■

## Up In Flames

After paying off its \$21,000 mortgage on its first headquarters building in a scant three and a half years, East Brandywine Fire Company members joyfully burned the mortgage on Saturday April 23, 1966, during the annual banquet held at Honey Brook Fire Hall. Officials revealed at the event that the company was considering construction of a banquet hall at the firehouse. ■



## Here’s your chance to support the August 20 Fireworks Display in the park.

**YES.** I’d like to help pay for the \$5,000 Fireworks Display. This is my chance to be a volunteer who supports the fire company.

Any gift is welcome—from \$5 to \$500. Please make your check payable to East Brandywine Fire Company and mark it as “Fireworks Contribution.” Mail it to The East Brandywine Fire Company, 2096 Bondsville Road, Downingtown, PA 19335-1153

Help make August 20 a memorable night for all.

*Thank you for your support.*

# Say Goodbye to Fire Engine Red: Here Comes the Yellow Bird

East Brandywine gave a cheering welcome to an unexpected piece of fire equipment on June 8, 1974—its first non-red fire engine. The new, lime yellow Ford C-900, 1,000-gallon Pierce pumper was immediately nicknamed the “Yellow Bird.”

The new color was no mistake. Not long before, Ward LaFrance, a major manufacturer of fire engines in Elmira, NY, polled many fire chiefs to ask, “What is the best color to paint a fire engine?”

Two-thirds said they wanted something other than red, the traditional color for many years. The fire chiefs argued that the difficulty of spotting a red vehicle in the dark was responsible for many nighttime accidents involving fire equipment. Study of various alternate colors in conditions of rain, snow, fog and glare pointed to lime yellow as the safest color. Some fire houses complained that it was unpatriotic to abandon red, but East Brandywine was not among them. The “Yellow Bird’s” arrival signaled a change to lime yellow for all equipment.

The Big Yellow’s arrival was celebrated with a 17-mile drive around the Township, accompanied by 35 other pieces of firefighting apparatus from neighboring fire departments.

The fund drive to pay for the new \$44,000 fire truck was led by a former fire chief, Harold Thompson, and the current one, Dr. Brent Follweiler (an anesthesiologist at Coatesville Hospital and an invaluable help when he was called to an accident scene). The truck was dedicated to the Ladies Auxiliary which led a fund drive that brought in \$17,000. ■

## *A Fireman’s Prayer*

When I am called to duty, God,  
Wherever flames may rage  
Give me strength to save some life  
Whatever be its age.  
Help me embrace a little child  
Before it is too late,  
Or save an older person from  
The horrors of the fate.  
Enable me to be alert  
And hear the weakest shout,  
And quickly and efficiently  
To put the fire out.  
I want to fill my calling  
And to give the best in me,  
To guard my every neighbor  
And if according to my fate,  
I am to lose my life,  
Please bless with your protecting hand,  
My children and my wife.



In 1975, this plaque inscribed with the fireman’s prayer was presented to the Company by the Ladies Auxiliary. Shown above are Edgar Pierce, John Piersol, Beverly McCarty and James Baker.

# 'When the Whistle Goes, I'm Ready'

Among the thousands of fire and emergency calls the fire company has made over the years some stick in the memory for their demands and, at times, their tragedy. Among them:

A deadly fire in 1971 in a residence at Reeds Road and Hopewell Road. It was a bitter night with a hard wind and snow drifting to more than a foot in depth. Just after 4 a.m. a telephone company crew spotted flames and called the fire company. In spite of their best efforts, the house was consumed and five occupants died—two adults and three children.

Nearly 20 years later, in 1999, the scene was the former Downingtown Industrial and Agricultural School on Horseshoe Pike (now the home of the Delaware County Community College). The fire was reported at mid-afternoon and was brought under control in about 90 minutes—but not before a vacant, two-story residence building was destroyed. The East Brandywine fire crew had backup from firefighters in Downingtown, Thorndale and

Coatesville. The school had already closed down and the community college was able to proceed with its plans to open its new campus.

Another snow storm, another emergency call—but this time there was a happy ending. The call was for a medical emergency on Blakely Road, and to reach it equipment had to navigate the curves and steep hills of Rock Raymond Road.

The ambulance (not from the fire company) got stuck in a snowdrift. Scott Piersol, Township Manager and a key emergency crew member, made it to the home in the fire company medically-equipped Chevy Suburban. But even it could not make the final section of snow-filled driveway. So firefighters Kevin Shaffer and Mike Wright used the patient's snow blower to open the driveway, then rigged up a sled and pulled the patient up the steep driveway to their vehicle. They waved at the still-stuck ambulance as they made their way to Brandywine Hospital. Outcome: success.

A dramatic, costly but injury-free fire destroyed a new but vacant home on Ferndale Lane in the new Hopewell subdivision on Nov. 3 last year. The fire call went out from Chester County Communications just before midnight with response from Station 49 (East Brandywine), 45 (Alert of Downingtown) and 48 (Glenmoore). The fire was brought under control in about an hour; cleanup continued until about 5 a.m. ■



In 1985, then Assistant Chief/EMT Scott Piersol carries a young boy, whose family van was involved in an automobile accident at the intersection of Route 322 and Route 82 in West Brandywine Township.

## Ready For Anything

A firefighter's duties often go far beyond putting out fires. In East Brandywine it helps if you know how to rebuild a car. Back in November 1963 when Leonard Mygatt donated a 1948 Jeep Willys CJ-2A to the fire company, a committee was appointed to make the Jeep into a field piece. Members of the committee—Chairman Robert Zynn, Tom McClintock, Frank Waters, John Piersol and Bill Laird—spent their free time after work and on weekends assembling the jeep, mounting a PTO pump and a 100-gallon tank.

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Inside This Special Edition of *The Milemarker*

# East Brandywine Fire Company Celebrates 50 Years of Service



**T**he East Brandywine Fire Company is located in the village of Guthriesville. The

Fire Company proudly serves East Brandywine, West Brandywine, and portions of Upper Uwchlan Township near Marsh Creek State Park. This total coverage area is approximately 26 square miles and has a population of approximately 14,000 people.

Along with Fire services, the fire company also operates a QRS (Quick Response Service) which provides Emergency Medical Services until neighboring ambulances arrive.

### Mission Statement

The mission of the East Brandywine Fire Company is to improve the quality of life within the community by providing a high quality emergency fire and medical

## Fireworks Display

Don't miss the fabulous **August 20** fireworks display at 9:30 p.m. in East Brandywine Community Park. **More information inside.**

service, an excellent fire prevention program, including public education and fire investigation, and a fire fighting and Quick Response Service capable of handling all types of emergencies. The Department will accomplish this mission while maintaining a high standard of training and education, maintain fire department facilities and apparatus, and interact professionally with other emergency service organizations. ■



Pictured above is **Ladder 49**, a 1998 American LaFrance Eagle. See more equipment pictures inside on page 8.

*The*  
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EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP

### Mailing address

1214 Horseshoe Pike  
Downingtown, PA 19335-1153

### Office location

Laird Professional Building  
110 Hopewell Road, 2nd Floor

*Postmaster: Deliver to current occupant*

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
SOUTHEASTERN, PA  
19399  
PERMIT NO. 50