

The Village Times

Evergreen Village Cooperative

June 2026

From the Editor

Your Voice, Your Village

Why Participation Matters

Last month, we looked at what's decided at the Annual Meeting—how budgets are set, rent levels are determined, and leadership is chosen.

Those decisions matter to everyone. But there's something just as important: who is in the room when they're made.

In recent years, attendance at our Annual Meeting has been lower than it should be.

We've reached a quorum—but just barely.

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Presidents Message

Michelle Dinen

Happy June, Members of Evergreen.

Hopefully we have seen the last of winter-like temperatures for a while. The pool is officially open, the heater is on, and the summer season is underway. Please remember to sign in and follow the pool rules for both your safety and the safety of others. As a reminder, there will be an AED training session on June 15th at 6:00 PM in the clubhouse.

Thank you to everyone who attended our monthly board meeting, whether you joined us in person, via Zoom, or by watching the recording. Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 22nd at 6:00 PM. It will take place in person at the clubhouse and will also be accessible on Zoom.

Most importantly, please plan on attending the Annual Meeting on August 22nd at the Portland Fire Hall at 9:00 AM. It is vital that at least one voting member from each household attends this meeting. This session is where we plan the next fiscal year, elect

our officers, and vote on the cooperative budgets. If we do not meet our required quorum of at least 82 members, we will be unable to conduct any official cooperative business.

Behind the scenes, your board members are working hard to ensure our current projects are completed smoothly. We are also actively planning for the future of our community through our ongoing focus on finance, property, maintenance, and community engagement.

We also want to extend a special thank you to our Onsite PMI Liaison Mark Bergman, our street captains, community volunteers, and all of our members here at Evergreen. From delivering information and sprucing up the community, to helping out where needed and keeping your own home sites beautiful and inviting, we are all working together. We Are Evergreen!

Wishing you all a happy and healthy month ahead.

Michelle Dinnen
Interim President

Volunteer to Serve YOUR Community

Patriotic Rock Garden

By Rich DeLeo

It's been my pleasure to finish this first part of the village decorating event, which will culminate with the party on the fourth of July. Here's how it went.

Working together for short meetings at a time, a bunch of volunteers chose a patch of ground that was staked out at the corner of Flintlock & Revolutionary. It was trimmed very low and covered with black weed tarp and was pinned down. It was further covered with a layer of black & brown mulch, to make a nice background for the letters. 53 round rocks were collected, mostly from the water edge of the lake. With the sacrifice of Mary's trailer tire, the heavy rocks were moved to the patch where they were all washed

and scrubbed. With a mention on Facebook and the web site, a painting day was chosen. With red, white & blue paint on their hands and the rocks, all 53 were painted, tops & bottoms, and given time to dry, on one of the nicest, blue sky days in May. Shortly after, the rocks became letters and were assembled,

U.S.A. and the "job" was done.

Personally I totally enjoyed the work, but have to say a better part of it all was the time spent with the volunteers. I met a bunch of people and learned a bit about their lives and families. Much encouragement was received by visitors passing by, throwing compliments and waving.

Can't end without some credits; to Mary, my co-partner, up

with the sun, rock hound, scrounger and workaholic. To Greg, pickup driver & rock hauler, water oasis & nice guy. Ginny, stone-cold stone washer (a good thing), great job. Jane; true blue painter of the entire blue A. Phyllis, with two bags full (in the nick of time). And Sam; reliable on every level and handles a mean paint brush and camera. To the many others who came by with help, donations and suggestions, and gave us encouragement, sorry I don't know all your names, but I will try to learn them in the future, your participation was valuable. Thanks also to the Social & wellness Committee and the Board Of Directors. Congratulations Evergreen Volunteers, my personal thanks.

Rock Garden Team



June 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i> <i>Bingo 1:00pm</i>	<i>2</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i> <i>Shuffleboard</i> <i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>5</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i>	<i>8</i> <i>Bingo 1:00pm</i>	<i>9</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>10</i> <i>Prayer,</i> <i>Share, Fellow-</i> <i>ship 10:00am</i> <i>Camera Club</i> <i>8:30 pm</i>	<i>11</i> <i>Shuffleboard</i> <i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>12</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>13</i> <i>Community</i> <i>Yard Sale</i> <i>8:00—2:00</i>
<i>14</i> <i>Yard Sale Rain</i> <i>Date</i>	<i>15</i> <i>Bingo 1:00pm</i> <i>AED Training</i> <i>6:00pm</i>	<i>16</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>17</i>	<i>18</i> <i>Shuffleboard</i> <i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>19</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>21</i>	<i>22</i> <i>Bingo 1:00pm</i> <i>BOD Meeting</i> <i>6:00pm</i>	<i>23</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>24</i> <i>Prayer,</i> <i>Share, Fellow-</i> <i>ship 10:00am</i> <i>Camera Club</i> <i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>25</i> <i>Shuffleboard</i> <i>6:30 pm</i>	<i>26</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i>	<i>29</i> <i>Bingo 1:00pm</i> <i>BOD Meeting</i> <i>6:00pm</i>	<i>30</i> <i>Stretch</i> <i>10:00am</i>				

From the Editor

Continued from page 1

That means a small number of residents are making decisions that affect the entire community.

A strong community depends on more than just a few voices. It works best when participation reflects the people who live here.

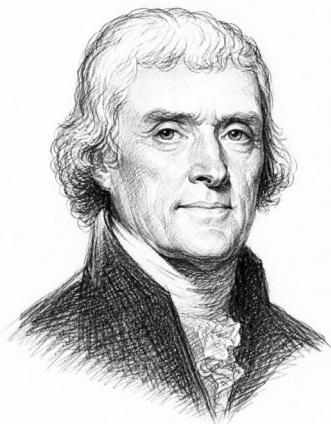
When more residents take part: Decisions better represent the community

More perspectives are heard

Outcomes are more balanced and thoughtful

This isn't about pressure—it's about making sure our community reflects all of us, not just those available on a given day.

August may still feel a ways off, but participation doesn't start at the meeting—it starts with deciding to be part of it.



A Ghost in Evergreen?

By Rich DeLeo

My article for June was to revolve around summer, but...

Coming into the village after midnight the other night, I noticed a strange flickering light inside the clubhouse. Thinking perhaps of sparks or fire I parked in the lot and headed to the door. Inside the doorway the flickering light remained, coming from just out of view in the kitchen. As I stood there the light began to get brighter and suddenly I was taken aback as a misty floating candle came into view. Soon a hand materialized around the candle and then a tall shadowy man with shoulder length white hair and high collared coat solidified. Startled I stepped back a few feet bumping right into the bulletin board wall. He looked vaguely familiar. I asked, "Wh-who are you?", even though I wasn't sure I wanted him to answer. He replied, "My name is Jefferson sir, Thomas Jefferson".

I just stared, mouth open, too startled to respond. He didn't seem threatening so finally I got the courage to ask, "Why are you here?" He spoke simply, and surprisingly said, "All over Virginia of late I see and hear people talking about The United States and her birthday. I have been traveling everywhere to see with my own eyes". I responded, surprising myself to be having a conversation with a ghost. "Yes Mr.

President, most of America is excited that our country has been a huge success for 250 years. You and your friends have given us a country with such solid ideas and have allowed us to live wonderful free lives all this time. So on the 250th anniversary of July 4th we will celebrate with decorations, parades, fireworks, and displays".

He spoke again smiling, "We tried our best back then. We were mostly all young men, full of high ideals. I am glad we got it correct". I said, "I'm sorry sir, but it wasn't all correct. But you were wise enough to see the future would change, and you built in the means for us to make the changes necessary to live with that future. It's up to us now to use the good work you left us and continue that work. But no other place on earth has had such a wonderful start thanks to you and your friends. We are so grateful. We are doing the best we can, although many of us wish you and your friends were still with us to help".

He smiled again, "Thank you sir, you have made a very old man happy and able to rest. I look forward to telling my friend Benjamin what you have said. Keep up the good work. I hope my showing up here like this wasn't too unsettling". I

See Ghost: *continued on page 6*

PONDERING

By Sam Brockman

"A Good Stretch"

I woke up the other morning and did what every sensible person over a certain age does before attempting anything ambitious — like standing upright. I stretched.

Arms up. Back creaking. Toes pointing like they still remembered 1958.

My joints popped in three different keys, sounding less like a healthy human being and more like an old screen door in a high wind. But oddly enough, it felt pretty good.

As I sat there waiting for the coffee to brew, it occurred to me just how much of life revolves around that one little word: stretch.

Even I have occasionally been wrongfully accused of stretching the truth. Never outright lying, mind you — just adding a little seasoning to the story. Around here, fish caught at the lake seem to grow two inches every time the tale is retold at the mailbox. By the time the story reaches the clubhouse, someone's bluegill has become a sea monster worthy of a documentary.

But long before we stretched stories, most of us learned how to stretch a paycheck.

Back in my younger days, families could perform financial miracles with twelve dollars and a coupon book. A pound of hamburger became three suppers, two lunches, and a casserole nobody could quite identify. My

mother could stretch leftovers so far that I suspect a few meals may actually have crossed state lines.

That wasn't budgeting. That was an Olympic event.

Of course, the older we get, the more things require stretching. These days, a morning physical stretch is practically mandatory if I plan on successfully retrieving anything I dropped on the floor. I no longer bend over casually. I prepare. There's planning involved. Occasionally paperwork.

And time itself seems to stretch differently now too.

"I'll do that in a minute," I say confidently — and somehow that minute stretches into next Thursday. Time is sneaky that way.

Then there's patience. We stretch that regularly while waiting for computers to update, doctors to call back, or microwaves to finish the final three seconds. And have you ever noticed how a pot of water absolutely refuses to boil if you're standing there watching it? The water knows.

English, of course, loves a good metaphor, and "stretch" may be one of the most overworked words in the language.

We stretch our legs.

Stretch our imaginations.

Stretch the budget.

Stretch a deadline.

Stretch the truth.

Stretch our patience.

Stretch out on the couch.

And some of us stretch our stories enough that they should probably come with warning labels.

But perhaps stretching isn't such a bad thing.

Muscles need stretching to stay flexible. Minds need stretching to keep learning. Hearts need stretching to make room for patience, kindness, forgiveness, and the occasional unexpected houseguest.

Even life itself benefits from a little healthy stretching now and then.

So maybe this month we should all attempt what I'm calling The Great Evergreen Stretch.

Stretch your legs with a short walk.

Stretch your imagination with a new hobby.

Stretch your kindness toward someone having a rough day.

Stretch your smile a little wider.

And if you absolutely must stretch the truth... at least make the story entertaining.

Just remember not to stretch yourself too thin. We're not rubber bands. And even rubber bands eventually wind up in the kitchen junk drawer wondering what happened to their glory days.

Until next month — stay flexible, keep moving, and try not to make any sudden movements



Ghost: *continued from page 4*

answered, "Meeting you is an honor. Being happy and able to enjoy being free men and women is what Evergreen Village and America are about. Please feel free to come back whenever you choose. Thank you sir for coming". With that he raised his hand and faded from view. I stepped out into the night, still smelling the candle wax. Now my problem is that no one, and I mean no one, is going to believe me.

Contributors and Staff

Rich DeLeo
Barabra Massarano
Marie Wolfrum
Carolyn Leidy
Phyllis Brockman
Michelle Dinnen
John Bermingham
Ginny Frank
Michelle Dinnen

Do you know these Stars

Marion Robert Morrison
Archibald Alec Leach
Doris Mary Anne Kappelhoff
Roy Harold Scherer Jr.
Anthony Dominick Benedetto
Walden Robert Cassotto
Stevland Hardaway Judkins
Mary Isobel O'Brien
Arnold George Dorsey
Ellen Naomi Cohen O'Brien
Arnold George Dorsey
Ellen Naomi Cohen

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Around the Town

John Bermingham

Please find the following meetings taking place in June:

All meetings are at the Upper Mount Bethel Township Building

387 Ye Olde Highway, Mount Bethel, PA 18343

June 3rd 7pm ---- Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting.

June 8th 7pm --- The Board of Supervisors Meeting.

June 9th 7pm ---- Transportation Advisory Committee Meeting.

June 11th 7pm --- Park and Recreation Committee Meeting.

June 16th 7pm ---- Solar Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting.

June 17th at 7pm --- Planning Commission Meeting.

June 22nd at 7pm-- The Board of Supervisors Meeting.

June 23rd at 7pm --- The Zoning Hearing Board Meeting.

June 24th at 7pm ---- Open Space Advisory Board Meeting.

June 25th at 7pm -- -- Economic Development Committee Meeting.

If you have any questions about Township business, feel free to call the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, John Bermingham at (602) 703--3717.

Quorum (Kwor um)

By Ginny Frank

Funny looking and sounding word. Definition: the minimum number of members that must be present at a meeting in order for official business to take place.

This is the word you keep hearing at the monthly Board Meetings. Why is it important ? We need to have a certain number of members present at the Annual Meeting on August 22, 2026. Even though you can vote for members to be appointed to a particular Board position by using an Absentee Ballot, you cannot vote on any Rule changes or any other Important issues that may come up. We need to have at least 50% of our Village households present, not just 50% of people. Each household only gets one vote, and even though 2 persons may reside in that household and attend the meeting, only 1 vote and 1 person counts towards a quorum. Our quorum is $158/2=79$

So, as you can see, it is extremely important that as many people and households attend as is possible. YOUR VOTE counts and is meaningful for the proper running of Evergreen Village. EVERYONE has a say in what goes on here.

Ginny Frank,

Chair - Nominating Committee

Semiquincentennial

By Sam Brockman

Does it matter?

Celebrating the 250th birthday of the United States is important because it offers Americans a rare opportunity to reflect on the nation's history, recognize its progress and struggles, and renew their commitment to the responsibilities of citizenship and democracy.

The anniversary marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence, one of the most significant events in World history. It is a moment to remember the founding ideals of liberty, self-government, individual rights, and opportunity—principles that continue to shape the nation today.

The celebration also honors the generations of people who helped build and defend the country. Soldiers, workers, immigrants, activists, innovators, and everyday citizens all contributed to the American story.

Recognizing those contributions helps connect the past to the present and reminds people that the nation was shaped through the efforts of many different communities and generations.

National milestones like the 250th anniversary can also strengthen civic unity. Americans often disagree on political and social issues, but shared celebrations create opportunities for communities, schools, families, and organizations to come together around a common history and future. Parades, educational programs, historical exhibits, service projects, and local events help reinforce social connection and civic identity.

Another important part of the semiquincentennial is education. Anniversaries encourage renewed interest in history and civics, especially for younger generations. They provide a chance to study both the nation's achievements and its

shortcomings honestly, helping people better understand how American democracy has evolved over time and how the meaning of "we the people" has expanded across 250 years.

The 250th anniversary is also about looking forward. It encourages Americans to think about what kind of country they want to build for future generations. Democracy depends on participation, responsibility, and informed citizens, and the celebration serves as a reminder that the nation's future is shaped by the choices people make today.

For many Americans, the value of celebrating the 250th birthday is not simply about patriotism or politics. It is about gratitude, reflection, family traditions, community pride, and appreciation for the opportunities and freedoms the country provides. More than anything, the anniversary is a reminder that the United States is an ongoing experiment—one that each generation is responsible for preserving and improving.



SHUFFLEBOARD AT THE CLUBHOUSE

Every Thursday at 6:30 PM

Pennsylvania

T I H Q K E Z U J K H B E R W Y N H N M
 E B Z U I R J Y E C R E A D I N G Q K S
 G I V Z P R V R L O A G N O T L I M F O
 E H P Y A A M U L D Q J X L C P E T G R
 L H H X X B E B I D A C D H A M L G L O
 L A I G I - H S V A V I A S P T L R E B
 O Z L P N S E I N R D M H G U N I U B T
 C L A I O E L L A B B L O N S E V B A A
 E E D T S K H A D E A A T O S V K S N H
 T T E T Q L T S R N S S X T E A C M O H
 A O L S D I E S D S E L E N J H A O N E
 T N P B I W B E I R E L T A M K R O M R
 S L H U Q U X W H P S G B R G C F L U S
 U D I R R C A T E I J H I C O O P B N H
 C M A G R T E K L E M B N S E L E D C E
 A R T H A R X R G E T T Y S B U R G Y Y
 N C B C A W A T S H G D B M A L V E R N
 T E X Z R C A U Q A M A T Y R O N E A X
 O G A J X B V A L E N C I A D R A R I G
 N N W O T S I R R O N N Y T I C L I O D

Word List

MILTON	ASHLAND
CHAMBERSBURG	PITTSBURGH
CARLISLE	FRACKVILLE
SALISBURY	HAZLETON
SCRANTON	OIL CITY
LEBANON	TYRONE
VALENCIA	HATBORO
BLOOMSBURG	STATE COLLEGE
GETTYSBURG	ERIE
BRADDOCK	NAZARETH
PHILADELPHIA	LOCK HAVEN
PAXINOS	BETHLEHEM
MALVERN	NORRISTOWN
READING	BERWYN
CANTON	WILKES-BARRE
MUNCY	CATAWISSA
GIRARD	JESSUP
DANVILLE	HERSHEY
TAMAQUA	

How many of these Historic Towns have you Visited?

Stage Name

John Wayne
 Cary Grant
 Doris Day
 Rock Hudson
 Tony Bennett
 Bobby Darin
 Stevie Wonder
 Dusty Springfield
 Engelbert Humperdinck
 Cass Elliot

Real Name

Marion Robert Morrison
 Archibald Alec Leach
 Doris Mary Anne Kappelhoff
 Roy Harold Scherer Jr.
 Anthony Dominick Benedetto
 Walden Robert Cassotto
 Stevland Hardaway Judkins
 Mary Isobel O'Brien
 Arnold George Dorsey
 Ellen Naomi Cohen

