

**PRESS RELEASE**

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**HISTORIC BIRCHRUNVILLE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES FUNDRAISING RESULTS**

*Spring Drive Raises Funds to Cover Expenses Incurred to Save the Birchrunville Schoolhouse*

BIRCHRUNVILLE, West Vincent Township, May 5, 2014— The Historic Birchrunville Neighborhood Association (HBNA) has announced the results of its Spring 2014 Fundraising Drive. The purpose of the drive was to raise funds to cover expenses from last year’s campaign to save the Birchrunville Schoolhouse. The historic property was the target of an excessive commercial development proposal and the Association spent over \$40,000 on legal and professional fees building a case to oppose the development. Ultimately, the development plan was withdrawn, and West Vincent Township purchased a portion of the property for use as a passive park.

According HBNA president George Graham, “we had no choice. While hiring experts was expensive, we knew that once the Schoolhouse was lost, Birchrunville would be changed forever.” He went on to add that “the community came together, supported our cause, and we are happy to report that the Spring Fundraising Drive has been a success. The HBNA is now debt free.”

HBNA vice president Thomaseth Dulchinos noted that “this effort has raised the community’s awareness of the importance of township ordinances with respect to protecting our historic resources. West Vincent Township has a strong historical ordinance in place, but we’ve learned that there are additional steps the township can take to ensure that we can enjoy the unique lifestyle offered by West Vincent and the village of Birchrunville for decades to come. As we move forward, we hope to maintain the close bonds and sense of the community formed during the campaign to save the Schoolhouse.”

The HBNA will host a table at West Vincent Township Community Day on May 10 to provide information to the community about the group. Unique “Birchrunville-branded” apparel will also be available for sale at the HBNA table.

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The Historic Birchrunville Neighborhood Association was formed in August 2013 with the stated mission “to actively protect, maintain, and enhance the quality of life of residents in and around the National Historic District of Birchrunville Pennsylvania, being mindful at all times of the unique flavor of Birchrunville and its historical heritage.”

To learn more about the HBNA, see: [www.historicbirchrunville.org](http://www.historicbirchrunville.org)