

## Elisabeth Knapp

Elisabeth Knapp has been a member of Swarthmore Borough Council since 2008, and is running for re-election to her second term. She has been the chair of Council's Planning and Zoning Committee for the last three years, and has led Council to adopt a variety of zoning ordinances aimed at more carefully preserving Swarthmore's unique physical character and promoting our town's strong sense of community. Prior to serving on Borough Council, she served as a member of the Zoning Hearing Board for three years. Several years ago, as a pro-bono service to Swarthmore, Elisabeth designed Swarthmore's town clock garden plaza at its train station.

A registered architect for the past 25 years, Elisabeth has run her own firm for the last 11 years, specializing primarily in renovation of early 1900's homes and in restaurant design. As a small business owner, and someone who works closely with restaurant owners in a very recession-sensitive market, she understands first-hand the challenges that small businesses face in today's economic climate.

Elisabeth believes that Swarthmore is a very special place to live and work, but that continual work and dialogue between residents and Borough Council is needed to make sure it keeps that special quality and remains responsive to the concerns of its residents, especially in today's tough economic environment. If re-elected to Borough Council, Elisabeth will continue to work to keep the town's economy healthy and sustainable, and to maximize efficiency in providing essential services to borough residents. She will continue to do everything possible to promote a beneficial climate for our downtown businesses to grow and prosper, and for our residential community to preserve its unique character.

Elisabeth's father directed international humanitarian relief programs, leading her family to live in many countries in Europe, Africa, and Asia. She witnessed first-hand a wide diversity of people and cultures, and she values and respects the richness that global multiculturalism increasingly brings to our daily lives. Elisabeth holds a BA from Wesleyan University in Connecticut, and a Masters of Architecture from the University of Virginia. She moved to Swarthmore with her husband John, a health care attorney, and her two children in 1992. She looks forward to discussing more specific issues, viewpoints and concerns with anyone in Swarthmore who would like to contact her.