Mayor’s Message

Hello Nazareth Borough Residents!

Since taking office January 2nd 2018, this is my first opportunity to communicate with you through our Borough Newsletter. What follows are several important informational points for residents:

One of the things I believe is important for Nazareth Borough is its ability to have a channel in which to communicate information to our residents. In order for this to happen, residents must share in the responsibility in getting themselves connected to that communication source. The channel we have is called The NIXLE System. The Borough has had this capability for the past three years, and more and more residents are registering for it. It is free to register. You can go to www.NIXLE.com to register and you will then receive updates from Nazareth Borough such as snow emergencies, road closures, weather alerts, etc. NIXLE is a community information service that allows the Borough to send you message alerts via a phone call to your land line telephone or cell phone. You can also receive these alerts in E-Mail, or text message form. I am urging all residents to sign up for this service as soon as possible and pass the word along to your fellow residents.

In light of the recent high wind storm that took place over March 2nd & 3rd, and the ensuing power outage that lasted for several days, I want to thank our Borough Public Works Department, Police Department, Volunteer Fire Company, and The Nazareth Ambulance for all of their hard work and efforts during the outage. I also want to thank those residents that did have power and offered help and assistance to their fellow residents. A truly special thank you must be given to Pastor Jeff Gehris and the Moravian Church in the circle at 4 S. Main Street. Because many of our normal potential shelter areas within the Borough were also crippled without power, Pastor Gehris graciously opened his church as a warming station. When I explained to him how many places were without power, and that we were looking for an overnight shelter, he did not hesitate and offered to keep the church open for two straight nights. Schoeneck Moravian Church also opened as a warming shelter as well. As Mayor, I am very grateful to Pastor Gehris and both congregations for this act of helping their community in a time of need.

I am pleased to announce that we have begun the formation of a Neighborhood Watch Program in Nazareth Borough. I believe this is crucial to assist our Police Department in keeping crime and drugs from overtaking our beautiful Borough. I want to send a message to thieves and drug dealers that states loud and clear to “stay out of Nazareth”, because we care about our community! Our first two meetings were held in February and March. If you are interested in getting involved please contact myself or the Nazareth Police Department at 610-759-9575 for more information.

We are always looking for “Helping Hands” volunteers to make our Borough look beautiful by helping to plant flowers, weed sidewalks, and maintain the urns throughout town. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please contact our Ecology Committee Chairperson Councilman Charles Donello at 484-274-2235 and he will let you know how to get involved.

Our Borough is a true gem that is rich with history and opportunity. I look forward to serving you, the residents as Mayor for the next four years.

Regards,

Mayor Lance Colondo.
Borough Residents and All on Council Mourn Loss of Councilman Brian Regn

All on Council and residents throughout our Borough were crushed and saddened by the news of the passing of one of our own, Councilman Brian Regn. The Christmas morning word of his passing hit us all hard as the likeable and hard working Brian had gone through a 14 month ordeal with his health situation. Our hearts go out too to wife Suzanne and son Connor who have lost the most important person in their lives, a man who we all came to know and love and appreciate for his grit and determination to improve Nazareth. Brian first started attending Council Meetings in 2011 when he became concerned about the condition of the sidewalks on the west side of Schoeneck Road leading to the Park and the Pool. It soon became obvious to us all that Brian was a man of character and conviction and I think we all were delighted when he placed his name for consideration for a First Ward Council seat and later in 2016 was elected for a two year term. To our recollection, Council had never had an airline pilot and captain in its ranks and true to his calling in life, Brian's Council convictions flew high and far with limitless optimism for this place we call home. We will all remember when he helped christen the new pool with the celebratory “first dive in” and who can forget his “technology push” for increased park video surveillance to preserve the safety of our Park while his vision helped to bring us the new Downtown Parking Lot. Brian left little doubt that he “loved his adopted hometown” and his time on Council and his work ethic showed it. A man of integrity and character, Brian chose his words wisely…but his words were always wise. That’s how we will remember him…a gracious man with a strong backbone who gave us all everything he had. God bless you Brian…we all love you and already miss you.

Council Reorganizes and Elects Officers

At its January 2, 2018 Reorganization Bi-Annual Meeting, Nazareth Borough Council elected its officers and approved the professionals that serve the Borough. Daniel Chiavaroli, first elected to Council in 1984, was unanimously elected as Council President. Forty year Councilman Larry Stoudt will again be Vice President, a post he has held since 1998. Stoudt will continue to serve as Chairman of Finance, Councilman Carl Fischl will chair the Police Department while Frank Maurek will remain as Public Property Chairman. Councilwoman Jessica Teel will continue to lead the Borough’s Fire Committee while five term Councilman Michael Kopach moves to a new post as the lead of the Law Committee. Newly elected Councilman Christopher Crook will take the reins for the Borough’s Technology Committee which now has the added responsibility of overseeing Economic Development and interacting with both Chambers of Commerce and the Nazareth Economic Development Commission. Councilman Carl Strye is now in charge of Public Works while Councilman Charles Donello’s role as Ecology Chairman includes not only Refuse and Recycling collection but also Borough tree issues, the Yard Waste Recycling Center and the disposal of collected leaves, branches and natural green waste. New Mayor Lance Colondo will oversee the Borough’s growing Police Department.

Nostalgia Corner...A Look Back...The 1942 Directory of Nazareth...A True Treasure

I recently found a copy of an older book entitled “Who’s Who in Nazareth - 1942 Directory of Nazareth Pennsylvania - With Telephone Numbers”. The bottom of the cover by-line states “Tells Everything You Want To Know About - The Heart of the Cement Industry”. The seventy six year old volume provides a look back to a different era and showed just how far we have come since that 1940’s time published only weeks after World War II had begun. The grey covered book had a hole punched in the upper left hand corner with a cord attached for hanging near the household phone but the real value was the wealth of information inside. Residents are listed, street by street, with each household member getting a separate line listing with their occupation followed by an entire section of alphabetical listings of each person by name. Three digit phone numbers are also listed...area codes did not exist in those days. The book is sprinkled with ads for several businesses and if you didn’t advertise your business with a block ad, you only received recognition in the street listing and not as referenced business in the Business Glossary. Lots and lots of businesses fell into this category including the A & P Grocery Store, Star Janitor Supply, Solt Chevrolet, Nazareth Hardware Store, Nazareth Army & Navy Store, several barbers and beauty salons, barrooms, gas stations and three drug stores. Several different car dealerships none of which have survived the years with names that few people would recognize at locations that all serve different purposes now are in the book. There was R.F. Ziegler Motors at the intersection of Mauch Chunk and Church Streets selling Dodges and Plymwoods, Frack & Leh Ford at 235 S. Broad Street and S.J. Gregory Studebaker at 27 Mauch Chunk Street. The Gold Auto Company at 311 S. Whiffield Street sold Hudsons while the Broad Street Garage at 23 - 25 S. Broad Street also sold Dodges and Plymwoods and Solt Chevrolet was also on Broad Street although they failed to take out an ad. Nazareth had three dairies, Willowdale Farms on North New Street owned by the Kostenbader Family, Nazareth Creamery and Dairy owned by Robert Edelman and Stanley R. Woodring who along with his sons Bob and Gerald, had early morning home milk and dairy products delivery. Stores are listed too like Western Auto which their ad states as the next door neighbor to the YMCA and Nazareth Tool & Supply at 167 S. Main Street and the Nazareth News Agency at 143 S. Main which old timers simply called “The Paper Store”. Henry Schlegel Men’s & Boy’s Clothing is listed and so is Anglemire’s but not for the records and hobby supplies that later made that store famous. Instead Anglemire’s ad offers radio services, lock repairs, keys made, saws filed, scissors sharpened and antiques repaired and refinshed as its offerings. The Nazareth Steam Laundry and Carpet Cleaning on South Whiffield Street is in the book and so is Clinton D. Frantz’s Shoe Store on South Main Street. The historic Nazareth Inn dating back to 1772 according to their full page ad offered old fashioned Pennsylvania Dutch cooking, Sunday
Thank You For Your Support

Thank you for your support and participation in Downtown Easton events this summer. We are proud of the continued growth of our community and all the people who have made Downtown Easton a success. The success of Downtown Easton would not be possible without the support of our businesses, professionals, non-profit organizations, institutions, and residents. We look forward to providing you with even more events and opportunities to enjoy Downtown Easton in the future.

Important Refuse & Recycling Reminders As Borough Embarks On New Environmental Initiative

The Borough has filed a grant request for a new leaf vacuum and several other pieces of equipment as it embarks on a new era of environmental awareness. In its efforts to keep Nazareth at the forefront for a cleaner and safer environment, the Borough’s newly named Environmental Steering Committee reminds you of the following important guidelines with additional information available on the Borough website at http://www.nazarethboroughpa.com...click on the Trash & Recycling tab in the left hand column.

Randall Miller Is Nazareth’s New Chief of Police

At its January 2, 2018 Borough Business Meeting, Nazareth Borough Council named former Police Commissioner Randall Miller as our new Chief of Police. Miller was first appointed as “Second In Command” on October 6, 2014 and was most instrumental in the Police Department’s updating of its officer training, revisions to its policy and procedures manual and improvements to overall operations and scheduling. On January 4, 2016, Council created the position of Police Commissioner and by motion appointed Miller to that post where his role expanded to bringing the Department in line with the standards set by a 2015 Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Police Evaluation. Miller brings a wealth of police experience with him having served lengthy tenures as the Northampton County Sheriff and as Bethlehem’s Police Commissioner. Miller will lead a Department of five full time and seven part time officers.

Economic Development Commission Hires Elizabeth Judge Wyant As New Downtown Coordinator

The Nazareth Economic Development Commission (NEDC) has, since 2014 when it hired a Downtown Manager, worked to coordinate the Farmer’s Market in the Circle, oversee the Facade Grant Program which has allowed many in our downtown to improve their properties and also to help in the recruitment of new businesses for the continued growth and vitality of our downtown. Following the resignation of Stephanie Varone last December, the NEDC conducted a search for a replacement and a person with ties to the success of Downtown Easton, Elizabeth Judge Bryant, was hired and is now on board. Ms. Wyant has an extensive background in marketing and promotions and her credentials include time spent with the Emmaus and Easton Farmer’s Markets and a leadership role with Easton’s highly successful Bacon Fest.

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Borough Residents and All

The Nazareth Borough Police Department has a new chief. John Miller was recently appointed, taking over for Brian Colondo who will oversee the Borough’s growing Police Department.  

They are names from our past that may rekindle memories of a downtown. Following the resignation of Stephanie Varone last several new businesses to the Borough and has overseen the and honors from Council as did former Downtown Manager

Councilman Charles Donello at 484-274-2235

With the summer months approaching and the weather finally breaking and getting nice out, we at Vigilance Hose would like to wish you all a safe and happy summer. We have had a lot of changes here at the fire department. In November we held our annual elections; elected that night for two-year terms were President Mark Morella, Vice-President Eric Heckman, Recording Secretary Kerry Frey, Financial Secretary Wendy Reese and Treasurer William Keifer. Elected that night to three-year terms were Stephenic Casner and Scott Lessig as Trustees to join existing trustees Bryon Stevenson, Collene Stevenson and Frank Betz III. I look forward to working with these individuals.  

During April’s monthly company meeting Fire Chief John Deutsch, along with assistant chiefs Jerry Johnson and Joe Ianovale, named line officers to the command staff at Vigilance Hose. Appointed that night were Kyle Noraaas as Captain, Jake Groff and Mark Morella as Lieutenants, Frank Betz III, Jeremy Slack, and Wade VanBuskirk as Foreman.  

We would also like to remind you to keep an eye out for our upcoming events this year. We have the annual carnival coming up June 6, 7, 8, & 9 at the borough park. Nazareth Day Road Rally and Fireworks on July 21. Summer Picnic Drawing and Scholarship Golf Tournament on September 8. If you have any questions about these events or are interested in participating, please contact President Mark Morella via email at mmorella@vigilancehose.com or leave a message at 610-759-2542. We look forward to seeing you at these events and would like to thank you in advance for your support. Without your help and continued support none of these events would be possible. Please also don’t forget to visit our website at www.vigilancehose.com and search for Nazareth Fire Department on Facebook for any and all updates to the events we have throughout the year.

Respectfully,
Mark Morella
President, Vigilance Hose

A Message and An Update From Our First Responders At The Vigilance Hose

Downtown Revival Continues As New Brewpub Debuts

Birthright Brewing Company at 57 S. Main Street made an early March soft opening debut to rave reviews and lots and lots of happy customers. Complete with specialty brews and an ever expanding menu, Birthright has already made a significant impact to the downtown with only better things to follow as more and more people discover what it has to offer. An early May Ribbon Cutting will officially christen the new pub and introduce even more new patrons to Nazareth’s newest business.

Pool Readies For A New Season

Season Four of the new Nazareth Pool gets underway on Saturday, May 26, 2018 at noon as the Borough welcomes swimmers for another summer of fun. Swimmers will be happy to note that rates have not changed from 2017 as Family Passes for a family of four continue at $175 for the season and $10 per family member if the family has more than four in it.

New Neighborhood Watch Program Will Add To Resident’s Safety

Nine years ago, then Police Chief Michael Sinclair and several Nazareth Police Officers met once a month with residents to try to bring Community Policing to the Borough. Initially successful, the
movement lost momentum when Sinclair left but lots of our citizens recognized how important their involvement could be in keeping Nazareth safe. New Chief of Police Randall Miller knows just how critical citizen contributions can be and has now authored Nazareth’s new Neighborhood Watch Program.

New Parking Meter Rates and Time Limits Debut...Nickels & Dimes Now Accepted Plus New 3-Hour Limit

In mid-March of this year, our Public Works employees made changes to our parking meters to comply with a Council motion allowing the acceptance of nickels and dimes and quarters plus increasing the time limit to three hours for three quarters. The move follows much debate over “in and out” customers being forced to feed a quarter into the meters to get a cup of coffee or run into the hardware store for something that only took minutes to do. A nickel now gets you twelve minutes of parking time and a dime allows twenty four minutes of parking but the biggest improvement is the convenience it brings to potential downtown customers who can now use any of three different coins to get meter time.

Nazareth’s Siren...The Real Story and A Little History... It May Be Loud & Annoying... But It Saves Lives

Many residents have sent inquiries to the website “Comments and Questions” section asking about our fire alarm. Some have even questioned its necessity not to mention what many have called “its too loud and annoying tone”. There was a time until 2008, when the Nazareth Fire Siren let out with a volley... some called it a “sick cow bellowing” which told residents what quadrant had the fire or the location for the emergency and did so with a code. In those long ago times, people pasted a list of call box numbers on their kitchen walls and when the alarm sounded, it did so with a code of sorts. A single blast followed by a pause and then two more blasts meant that someone had reported a fire and pulled alarm box Number Twelve. That cycle would be repeated four times for whatever call box alarm had been pulled. A quick look at the alarm box listing of numbers told you the quadrant for Alarm Box 12 so you pretty much knew the proximity of the fire. Long steady siren sounds means that the alarm was called in so you could listen for the sirens to hear the direction in which the fire trucks were traveling. The siren of course also alerted our volunteer firemen to respond and to get to the Firehouse and assist with extinguishing the Borough’s latest emergency. I called upon Nazareth’s resident expert on fire matters, Councilman Carl Strye Jr., to help with even more details. Strye remembered that the call box at the corner of Washington and Mauch Chunk Streets was Call Box 24, Box 44 was the call for the Firehouse itself and the code for the only out of the Borough Call Box at Martin Guitar

was Box 76. Strye even remembered that the horn got tired and out of air as it strained to bellow out 76 and by the fourth cycle it made a strange noise as it lost its power. Councilman Strye and longtime Vigilance Hose President offered even more information:

“ There was a period in time when we had a run of “false alarms” Mischievous persons would pull the alarm box, then run, creating a full out response from the fire company. We had to figure out a way to catch the “false alarm guys” so we invested in some Vaseline type of product to spread over the pulling mechanism in the alarm box. With great success, we caught the pranksters. The product we used was water activated to turn your fingers purple when you they got wet. You can only imagine the looks on their faces when we confronted them and their purple fingers. The word spread and the false alarms dropped considerably.

As time went on, we could not purchase the parts needed to maintain the old “horn”. This prompted the Borough to purchase a state of the art public alarm system. The alarm system we have now is used throughout the Country serving other volunteer fire companies. It is also commonly used as a Tornado Warning Siren in the mid-west and other parts of the Country.

The current FIRE ALARM cycle will sound four times. The audible alarm will climb and then descend. This indicates a fire call. Another audible alarm is a steady hi pitch tone that sounds for three minutes. This single tone audible alarm is used to notify citizens of a different type of emergency within the Borough other than a fire call.

On top of the old firehouse was also a civil defense siren. This would be used to alert the citizens of any emergencies other than a fire call. Back in the day, it would have alerted our citizens to any incoming attacks during the war years. Although rarely used, the siren was tested on Monday nights at 7pm. After many years the old siren, was giving up and was disconnected.

Today, most volunteer fire companies rely on home and portable pagers for alerting. Many people have asked, “Why do we have fire alarm”? Keeping with tradition, the answer is to notify the citizens that there is a fire call or other type of emergency within the Borough. Going back 10 years plus, the old horn and new alarm system would sound 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Today, the alarm does not sound between 10pm and 6am”.

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Important “Upcoming” Borough Events and Dates.

check the Borough Website for times & more info

**May 26, 2018**
Pool Opens

**May 28, 2018**
Memorial Day Parade

**June 6-9, 2018**
Fireman’s Carnival

**July 4, 2018**
Kazoo Parade

**July 21, 2018**
Nazareth Day & Fireworks

**September 3, 2018**
Pool’s Closing Day
Nazareth’s new Neighborhood Watch Program. Keeping Nazareth safe. New Chief of Police Randall Miller knows movement lost momentum when Sinclair left but lots of our fellow residents. A truly special thank you must be given to that did have power and offered help and assistance to their neighbors who is not receiving the newsletter or who is anyone who is not receiving the newsletter or who is aware that you call the Borough Office if you know or e-mail us at nazboro@rcn.com.

We ask you call the Borough Office at 610-759-0202.