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NAZARETH NEWS

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BOROUGH OF NAZARETH

est. 1740

Mayor's Message

Hello Nazareth Borough Residents:

This is our second and final Borough Newsletter for 2018. I hope everyone had a wonderful summer!

With school back in session, I am asking all residents to drive carefully through the borough and be alert for both school buses and students.

The Holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas will soon be upon us, and on behalf of myself and the Borough, I would like to wish all our residents and safe and happy Holiday Season!

The Holidays and colder weather also introduces the issue of that dreaded word: "Snow!"

I would like to take a moment to alert residents to our snow emergency procedures. You can go to our website www.nazarethboroughpa.com, look for the General Information Tab and you can scroll down to Snow Emergency.

For those without internet access, our snow emergency streets are: Belvidere Street, Broad Street, Center Street, Convent Avenue, Easton Road, High Street, Main Street (Including the Circle), Mauch Chunk Street, New Street, Schoeneck Road, Seip Avenue, Spring Street, Victory Lane, and Walnut Street. If you live or work on one of these streets please familiarize yourself with our snow emergency procedures.

Our procedure since 2014 has been the following:

If the weather forecast is calling for more than 3 inches of snow, residents should be prepared for a snow emergency to be put into effect. If you live, work, and park on one of the above-mentioned streets your vehicles must be moved within 2 hours of the start of a snow emergency or the vehicle will be ticketed and towed. Free parking is available at both the Nazareth Borough Park, and the parking lot by Bill Gold Field on S. Green Street. Please DO NOT park in the municipal parking lot at 134 S. Main Street.

The reason for this procedure is as follows: The Borough has many narrow streets. Even Main Street and Broad Street are narrow when vehicles are parked on both sides of the street. We also have meters and curbing to deal with. Having the streets cleared of vehicles allows our public works department to clear the roads as quickly and efficiently as possible. Contrary to what some people think, our Police do NOT like to issue tickets/tows to vehicles that do not move off the street. The Police do not do this to generate revenue. It is done because we need the streets cleared to remove snow. I would rather see our officers out patrolling during a storm to assist motorists; respond to legitimate calls, and providing road condition feedback as opposed to issuing tickets and following the tow truck around.

As mayor, I make the decision to call a snow emergency based on the latest weather forecast, and discussions with our Public Works Superintendent, and Chief of Police. Local government cannot control the weather, and sometimes the forecast falls short. We do not call snow emergencies to inconvenience people. We ask for your understanding in the event a snow forecast is a bust. Remember: residents cannot park back on a snow emergency street until the snow emergency is over or lifted. Please don't make the mistake of parking on a snow emergency route because you believe the road conditions do not warrant it.

The snow emergency will be announced on the following media outlets: The NIXLE System. Please sign up if you have not already done so. You can call the Police Department at 610-759-9575 to learn how to receive texts, emails, or phone calls from NIXLE. We will post snow emergency information on the borough webpage. The internet address is listed above. It will be also be posted on WFMZ TV 69, as well as several non-Nazareth Borough administered Facebook Group Pages such as The Nazareth Times, and the Borough of Nazareth PA. The Nazareth Police Department Facebook Page and The Nazareth Fire Department Facebook Page will also have snow emergency information posted. The Police also announce the snow emergency via the PA system in their vehicles before the snow emergency begins, and the fire whistle will also sound to announce the start of the snow emergency. If you have elderly neighbors, please check on them and alert as many people as you know when you hear a snow emergency has been declared.

We appreciate the cooperation of Nazareth Borough residents during a snow emergency.

Any question, please contact myself or the Nazareth Borough Police Department. Thank You!

Borough Adopts Parks/ Events/Facilities Use Policy & Contract Requirement

Our changing times have forced the Borough to adopt more stringent rules and requirements for the use of Borough parks, facilities and for the staging of events. New standards now in place make a forty five day written notice, the signing of a contract, a refundable deposit and the presentation of insurance certifications all necessary before Council gives the go-ahead for use and events to occur. If outside vendors are coming for the event, they are subject to the Borough Police Department's background checks and to small fees for Transient Merchant Licenses. The Borough's Website is being altered to show the new policy and to accommodate the necessary rules and forms. For now, e-mail the Borough Secretary/Treasurer at nazboro@rcn.com for requests or more information or respond to the Questions and Comments section of the Borough website. Either way, you are guaranteed a response and all the information you will need.

Yard Waste Recycling Center and Skate Park Will Close for the Season

Each November 30th the Borough locks up the Yard Waste Recycling Center and the Skate Park as another year of activity comes to a close. To many, the April 1st reopening may seem like a long way off but both facilities get time to breath as the winter weather sets in. The Skate Park will finish its eleventh year of operation while the Yard Waste Center on G.W. Stoudt Boulevard, completes its tenth year. Both facilities have served the Borough and its residents well for the last decade.

Does Anybody Remember…

Some Often Forgotten Tidbits about Our Borough?

- It was 1957 when the western-most portion of Seip Avenue became Gracedale Boulevard and instead of the road going straight to Route 248 the new road took a hard right turn past Gracedale so that Penn Dixie Cement could close the old road and expand its quarry.
- Fifty years ago Nazareth gained some notoriety with the 1968 song "The Weight" by The Band, with that famous first line, "I pulled into Nazareth, was feeling 'bout half past dead." Who can forget those famous lyrics and only three years later another rock group named Nazareth was formed and had a top ten hit with the song "Love Hurts"
- How about the large berm mound on the south side of West Prospect Street that absorbed the shock from blasting in the Lone Star Cement quarry? Until the early 1960's, it wasn't there and residents of Lincoln Avenue could stand in their back yards and watch the races, fireworks and thrill shows on Nazareth's 5/8 mile dirt track. In those days, the race track area was known as the Fairgrounds; mostly because the annual Nazareth Fair was staged there each August ... it's now the home of the Giant Supermarket and shopping area.
- Speaking of Gracedale, in my youth, it was never referred to as Gracedale but rather as the "Poorhouse" since in those days, it took in the elderly who could not afford other housing or healthcare? It had a famous and kindly but rather large resident who used to roam the West End ... whose name was "Angelo" ... and aptly, most in town called him a "Poor Soul" ... who lived in the Poorhouse. Those from Gracedale who could not afford a proper burial, ended up in the small and unmarked cemetery on West High Street just outside our Borough limits about where Young Road intersects with West High Street.
- Maybe one of the Borough's most raucous days was the Saturday in the Summer of '69 when we all celebrated Mario Andretti's Indianapolis 500 victory with a "parade for the ages." It was a parade like no other ... I remember it well.
- 1990 was a very special year in our Borough. It was our 250th Anniversary, there were two very lengthy parades, a Block Party, a host of other events in the magical two week celebration period and it was all concluded by Reverend David Schaefer's stirring and memorable closing speech in Andrew Leh Stadium.

Some may have forgotten...hopefully these tidbits will help all of us remember!

A Message from the Vigilance Hose Fire Company

The Vigilance Hose Company No. 1 is your volunteer fire company made up of citizens from your community. We volunteer our time and skills to assist the residents and visitors of Nazareth Borough and surrounding area during fire, rescue and medical emergencies. We respond to your emergencies, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. In 2017 we responded to 275 fire/rescue related emergencies. Maintaining state-of-the-art training, firefighting and rescue equipment along with delivering programs that teach our children fire safety can be very costly. Fortunately for our organization, there are hundreds of people, like you, in our community who realize the expense necessary to provide these emergency services.

Vigilance Hose Company No. 1 will be conducting its annual fund drive and we are asking for your continued support. A donation of $30.00 per Nazareth Borough household will help us meet expenses that continue to rise year after year.

Our annual fund drive request is **by letter only**. We do not solicit any donations by telephone so please be cautious about telephone calls soliciting funds for your local fire company. In addition, we do not employ a telemarketer to handle our fund drive. All efforts are handled by our volunteers except for the printing of our letter and the bulk mailing process.

As a volunteer organization, we are always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please visit www.vigilancehose.com. Please check out our Facebook page and website frequently, for current information on upcoming events such as the annual Easter Egg Hunt in April, Carnival in June, Road Rally and Fireworks in July, and Halloween Parade in October.

As a reminder, we recommend that you change the batteries in your smoke detectors twice a year. Safety does not come with luck. It has to be prepared.

Respectfully,

Mark Morella	*John Deutsch*	*Jerry Johnson*	*Joseph Ianovale*
PRESIDENT	FIRE CHIEF	1ST ASST. FIRE CHIEF	2ND ASST. FIRE CHIEF

PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT BY MAKING YOUR CONTRIBUTION TODAY!

The members and officers of Vigilance Hose Company No. 1 thank you for your continued support and generous contribution

Please visit our web site at www.vigilancehose.com

Vigilance Hose Company No. 1 is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Your donation is deductible to the extent allowed by law.

***Also check out our Facebook page on the upcoming* 2018 SANTA RUN!**

Nickels, Dimes and Quarters for Our Meters…

They're Paying Off In Added Foot Traffic and Revenues

Months ago, the Borough reprogrammed its meters to again accept nickels and dimes for short stay parking and then added meters to the upper section of the Main Street Parking Lot. The results have been modestly impressive as there is a noticeable uptick in foot traffic and a certifiable 10% increase in meter receipts. Additionally, customers who are dropping off their kids at day-care or buying a quick cone of ice cream or stopping at the Hardware for some nails are not forced to pay for an hour of parking when they only require a couple of minutes. A nickel gets you 12 minutes of parking while a dime takes care of 24 minutes with a quarter still getting you an hour of meter use, all at the Lehigh Valley's lowest meter rates. Each meter in the downtown also shows access to the Borough's remote parking app, Passport, that you can access and pay for from your Smartphone … all designed to make your downtown visit more convenient, less expensive … and more enjoyable. New signs are also on the way for the Main Street Parking Lot. Look for those to be in place in the coming weeks.

Nazareth Made Cement… Cement Made Nazareth

Long gone are the days when the Big 3—Lone Star, Penn Dixie and Nazareth Cement—ruled the roost in local cement production. All three had at least part of their operations within our Borough but they were joined by Hercules Cement in Stockertown and National Portland Cement Company in Hecktown, with Penn Dixie Plant #5 in Penn Allen, Penn Dixie Plant #6 in Bath, Keystone Cement in Bath and Alpha Portland Cement Sandts Eddy in Martins Creek, all somewhat nearby too.

Generations of our residents were employed by the Big 3 and to a lesser degree by neighboring plants but one thing is perfectly clear: Cement was king in our area and Nazareth's foundations can be pinned to the production of cement and mortar since the late 1890's.

The introduction of cement had its roots in Coplay where the first cement kilns were installed and David Saylor began experimenting with mixtures which would make cement more durable. Once Saylor developed a formula for the addition of sand and iron ore to the limestone he mined from the vein that stretches from western Lehigh County all the way to northwestern New Jersey, he began subjecting the mixture to very high temperatures in rotating cylinders known as kilns. Once the method for production and the formula for the mix were finalized, Saylor started Coplay Cement Company just after the Civil War.

One by one, plants sprung up along the vein of limestone with our Borough squarely in the mix. In 1899, the Nazareth Portland Cement Company took root along Route 248. Later to be called Coplay Cement after a buyout, then Essroc Cement following another takeover and today known as Lehigh Hanson Cement Company. The company thrived and immigrants flocked to our area to take advantage of the available work. Two years later in 1901, the Dexter Cement Company was formed and began operations along Route 248 before being purchased by Penn Dixie Cement Company in 1926. The company expanded to three plants all with their own quarries before ceasing operations in 1980, nearly twenty years after their Penn Allen and Bath plants had closed. Although the exact date is not known, Phoenix Cement, later to be known as Lone Star Cement began operations within the southwest confines of the Borough. Company homes sprung up in

an area along West Prospect Street and the aptly named Phoenix Street where employees and their families could be housed. Lone Star prospered until its closure in the mid 1990's when the plant and all facilities were purchased by Essroc Cement and many of its employees were offered continued employment by the new ownership group. Today, all of its mills, quarries and packing facilities are owned by Lehigh Hanson Cement Company and they remain as the only operating cement producer in the Borough and neighboring townships.

Generations of Nazareth families made their living in cement production and the accompanying services like trucking, bag making and the railroad which brought in raw materials like coal and iron ore and then filled their tanker cars with cement and mortar. Cement haulers like Schwerman Trucking, MTS, Chemical Leaman Tank Lines, Penn Dixie Trucking and others employed hundreds of mechanics, drivers, dispatchers and yard help in their hay day while our nation built highways, skyscrapers and other infrastructure. Employees and their families bought homes near their plants with the far West End of our Borough populated by lots of Penn Dixie and Lone Star families while South New Street, Oak and Lackawanna Streets, and South Whitfield Street were the home to many Coplay Cement employees. It was a boom time for our Borough and a steady paycheck for the families who depended on cement for their livelihoods...most of it is gone now but hopefully never to be forgotten.

Nazareth Has What Few Others Have…An Arts Center

"There is an arts center in Nazareth?" Yes, there is! The Nazareth Center for the Arts is located on 30 Belvidere Street— what was formerly the police and fire stations. On behalf of the board members from the Nazareth Center for the Arts, I would like to share some important information with the residents of Nazareth. The Nazareth Center for the Arts was established in 2009 by some passionate citizens who believed that a local arts organization was integral to the fabric of the community. These dedicated citizens transformed the historic 1902 firehouse into a unique arts center. I joined the board in 2013 because I believed in the Center's mission statement "to educate, inspire, and celebrate the visual and performing arts in Nazareth and surrounding communities."

The Nazareth Center for the Arts offers year-round scheduling that includes a beautiful art gallery and artist receptions, live music performances ranging from local to national-touring musicians, various art and martial arts classes, open mic nights, and other special events. The Center also hosts private events and parties as rental space.

I cannot begin tell you how many times I have heard the comments, "This place is fabulous! I lived in Nazareth for years and didn't even know you were here," and "The concerts are incredible and prices reasonable. This place is a gem. Why were you hidden?" This is why I am writing this editorial. How do we get the word out? Yes, we have a website, social media and occasional advertisements in the newspaper; however, we are still relatively unknown.

The Nazareth Center for the Arts is a non-profit organization that relies solely on volunteers. So how are we able to sustain the building and programming? We have citizens and businesses who believe in our mission. Kudos to our Borough Council, Martin Guitar, the Northampton Hotel Tax Grant, The Nazareth-Bath and Lehigh Valley Chambers, other local businesses, and the dedicated patrons who attend events and take classes. But this is not enough to move forward. We are able to keep the doors open and provide minimal programming. It is hard enough to survive in the entertainment world with the likes of the Sands Corporation and Arts Quest—no different than our local hardware store competing with Home Depot or Lowes or our Army & Navy store competing with Wal-Mart or Target or any of our local owned restaurants competing with the mega-chain restaurants. I admire the little, hard-working guy!

The Nazareth Center for the Arts wants to move forward by providing more and diverse programming, and one day, doing renovations where many people will say, "Yes. I know about that place. It's awesome!" Rather than hearing, "I never heard about the Center before." Our goal is for growth and sustainability.

How can you make a difference? No, this is not a sales pitch about asking for money. It is about AWARENESS. Check our website out at www.nazaretharts.org. Find the building on 30 Belvidere so you can make a visual reference. Follow us on social media. Make comments about what you would like to see be offered such as classes, concerts, movies, events, etc. If you are an artist, dancer, teacher or musician, that would like to teach, perform or offer suggestions, please do so. If you are looking for a rental facility for parties, bridal or baby showers, office seminars, veterans or any special group, email us or call 484-223-6906. Please come to one of our art shows or concerts. It is a BYOB venue.

Just remember, a little goes a long way. Embrace the local arts scene. Thank you.

Submitted by Erik Honsel

Snow Removal Reminder from Our Code Enforcement Officer

Our Borough has strict rules regarding the shoveling/removal of snow from sidewalks following a storm or any type of snowfall. With winter and bad weather fast approaching and the inevitable threat of snow, there's no time like the present to remind all residents that all snow must be removed from sidewalks within 24 hours after the snow has stopped. Keep in mind too, that snow is not to be thrown onto the roadways or streets as this makes travel on those surfaces treacherous and adds to the difficulties that our Public Works Department has with plowing and cleanup during and after a storm. Violators face fines for failure to properly clean their walks within that 24 hour period.

Borough Clerk Chris Lilly Will Say Goodbye After 23 Years . . . Renee Gale Hired As New Borough Clerk

February 1, 2019 will be a sad day in our Borough as longtime Borough Clerk, Chris Lilly, will retire. With her departure, the Borough will lose a devoted, trusted and caring employee who always put the Borough's needs ahead of her own. Chris was always the "first in the office" in the morning and the last to leave each evening and in between, the best interests of our Borough always came first. Chris often switched vacations or planned days off if Borough needs called. More often than not, she knew when critical payroll, planning and budgeting times demanded her presence so she typically adjusted her personal life so that she was there when needed. Most importantly, she was the pleasant and always helpful face of our Borough if you came through the front door of 134 S. Main Street and needed information, directions or had recycling or event scheduling questions. Chris was a big part of everything that Council did and to be sure her duties on the Budget Committee, the Pool Committee and all she did with the Borough's Refuse and Recycling matters, made her even more extra special. She accepted the promotion to Borough Clerk in 2006 and resolved that when she departed for retirement, she would leave things better than what she inherited and most certainly, she did just that. For those of us who have had the pleasure of working with her, one thing is certain, she will be greatly missed and will never be forgotten. One other thing is certain too....they just don't make them like her anymore!

Use the Kiosks to Advertise Your Civic Event or Learn about What's Coming to Nazareth . . .

They're a Free & Valuable Resource

Eight years ago the Borough received a $5,000 Northampton County DCED Property Enhancement Grant to purchase and install three ornamental kiosks to provide visitors and residents with information about meetings, public service announcements and general Borough news. There's a kiosk in the Circle, one at Council Chambers and another at the Borough Municipal Building at 134 S. Main Street. All three offer a free, glass-enclosed venue for announcements and offerings coming to our area. Your only obligation is to stop at the Borough Office for the keys to the kiosks before you post your information and then return to take down your sign or announcement after it has happened. Call the Borough Office at 610-759-0202 for more information.

Borough Budget 2019 Offers Many Improvements

Borough Council approved a "Proposed" 2019 Operating Budget at its November 5, 2018 Business Meeting. The spending plan includes some significant street improvements, a few new water features for the Pool, emergency natural gas powered generators for the Municipal Building and the Firehouse, a new roof for the Park Garage, a pump for the Pool Filter Room, painting portions of 134 S. Main Street and a number of improvements to keep our Police Department compliant and up to date.

New Refuse and Recycling Rates Go Into Effect On January 1, 2019

Following a bidding process for the Borough's garbage collection, only one bidder stepped forward to offer prices and the terms for a new contract. Like other local communities, rates are rising at an alarming rate after a four year period that saw Borough residents benefit from a $5 per quarter reduction. Based on the bid of J.P. Mascaro & Sons, the only bidder for Borough collection services, quarterly charges will now be $90 for curbside pickup or $360 per year keeping our Borough at the low end of rates in the Lehigh Valley. New bills will be coming out soon and you will see the new rates that will be in effect for the first quarter of 2019.

End of Year Calendar

November 29, 2018
Recycling Center Closes For Season • 5:00 pm • Stoudt Boulevard

November 30, 2018
Skate Park—Last Day Open till April '19 • Dusk • Borough Park

November 29, 2018
December Council Workshop • 6:00 pm • Council Chambers

December 3, 2018
December Business Meeting • 6:00 pm • Council Chambers

December 6, 2018
Tree Lighting Ceremony • 7:00 pm • In the Circle

December 8, 2018
Christmas in Nazareth • 11:00 am • In the Downtown

January 3, 2019
January Workshop Meeting • 6:00 pm • Council Chambers

January 7, 2019
January Business Meeting • 6:00 pm • Council Chambers

Nazareth Borough Council

Daniel Chiavaroli **President**
Larry Stoudt **Vice President**
Lance Colondo **Mayor**
Paul A. Kokolus **Secretary/Treasurer**
Alfred S. Pierce **Solicitor**
Albert R. Kortze **Engineer**
Randall P. Miller **Police Chief**
Bob Reimer **Public Works Superintendent**
Keller Zoning and Inspections
Zoning and Code Officer

Councilpersons

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Christopher Crook
Michael Kopach
Frank S. Maurek

Second Ward
Carl A. Fischl
Larry Stoudt
Jessica Teel

Third Ward
Daniel Chiavaroli
Charles A. Donello
Carl Strye, Jr.

Important Phone Numbers

Nazareth Borough Police/Fire/Ambulance Emergencies 911
Nazareth Borough Police Department (non-emergency) 610-759-9575
Non-Emergency 911 Center 610-759-2200
Nazareth Borough Administration Offices 610-759-0202
Nazareth Borough Highway Department 610-759-0401
Nazareth Borough Tax Collector 610-746-1507
Nazareth Borough Code Enforcement 610-759-8227
Nazareth Borough Park Reservation 610-759-3522
Nazareth Borough Refuse/Recycling 610-759-0202

Have a question, article, letter or comment about the newsletter?

Contact the Borough Office at 610-759-0202 or e-mail us at nazboro@rcn.com.

We ask that you call the Borough Office if you know anyone who is not receiving the newsletter or who is receiving duplicate copies.

Send to: Borough Secretary
Borough of Nazareth
134 South Main Street
Nazareth, PA 18064



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