

Brookhaven Borough Business



Sixty Seventh Edition

Brookhaven, Pennsylvania

October 2019

STATE OF THE BOROUGH

By Vawn Donaway Council President

As I get close to finishing out my second year as Council President, allow me to say that the list of accomplishments have been well worth every second spent on making Brookhaven a great place to live, work and play. In the age of instant gratification, social media as well as personal and political agendas, it can become a bit challenging to balance the fiscal responsibility and legitimate interests for 8,000 plus residents. Sometimes just keeping your finger in the dike can present the biggest challenge of the day. However, we are able to keep it all together with a little help from the boom in our economy on a country-wide basis and pure determination on our part on the local level. How do we do it? The truth is we really have so much to be thankful for. As it should be evident to all, we are seeing new stores pop up in the borough, parks and fields are slowly being renovated, and Hometown Heroes are lining our streets, all of which are kept safe by our police and fire departments. There's also a lot of behind the scenes work being done as well. Your Council has put in some long hours but we couldn't do it without our staff, engineers, legal team and volunteer workers.

Some of the first items we had to tackle out of the gate was to bring our finances into line, restore the vacuum of leadership in the police department, bring our borough ordinances into legal compliance, and perhaps most importantly we worked to bring transparency back to the forefront. I'm happy to report these accomplishments and with that

all under control, we've been able to negotiate a contract with the Teamsters for our Streets Crew, finish upgrading our street lights program, renovate Eaton Park, and decorate our streets with this nation's finest. We are in the process of upgrading our communicative technology in order to stay responsive, and bring stability mixed with accountability to our town.

With all this success, comes a little rain. But have no fear, we are working through the rough spots. You may have witnessed for yourself that as our infrastructure ages, more collapsed storm and sanitary sewers are popping up around town. It is a serious problem that we are working hard to get under control. 80 plus years of wear and tear have come home to roost. We currently have, as of press time, just short of 1.8 million dollars of repairs that need to be met. We will begin in October to pave some of the streets badly in need as the money allows. Just paving the bare necessities will take over \$ 315,000.00 alone. As we get our infrastructure more secure, we will be able to pave more streets. If we don't get to you this time, keep the faith. We never give up.

Keeping us all safe, we have a dedicated, top notch Fire Department led by Fire Chief Rob Montella and made up of a mostly volunteer crew who answer call after call. Under the new leadership of Police Chief Matt Kurten, we have a more stable Police

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Department with increased patrolling to help keep us and our homes secure. We have well managed sports teams led by some of our finest citizens and of course there are a number of recreational and fun activities that span from Family Day, Trunk or Treat, Concerts in the Park to the Christmas Parade. Volunteer committees are doing a fabulous job to bring the fun but there are also those who do the more mundane but important tasks such as taking care of building, zoning and health issues to name a few. All of this happens while Councilperson, Janice Sawicki continues her efforts to maintain a fiscally well managed municipality – the effect, our property values are on the rise! None of that happens by accident. It takes many hours of a dedicated council and supporting staff, for whose efforts I am most grateful.

As we race toward the holiday season, I want to acknowledge the people responsible for bringing the Christmas Holidays home in with such grand style. Holiday Parade Committee co/chair Linda Riffert, Ginny McGee, Stephanie Donaway and our newest member Renee McClellan work many hours raising funds and organizing one of the County's best parades. I am very grateful for their efforts and enjoy working at their side. This year's Christmas parade will take place on November 23, kick off at 2 pm. If you wish to join our committee, please let one of our members know or drop in on one of our monthly meetings. We meet the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Municipal Center. We will keep a light on for you.

We work every day to maintain our community spirit and we are dedicated to safe and secure neighborhoods. Yes, we have been successful overcoming many challenges. And we fully intend to push on making Brookhaven a very unique place, and to do so without apology.

Chief Matt Kurten



I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the residents and businesses of Brookhaven for welcoming me into your community with open arms. My transition into the role as Chief of Police has been facilitated by the positive outreach and relationships that have been developed in this short period of time.

Now to some business. As I stated at my swearing in as Chief, my philosophy and personal mantra is "Everything matters!" The police department exists to serve all residents, visitors and businesses in need of law enforcement services in the Borough. I have created and disseminated "Core Values" for the Department, standards that I expect all officers to adhere to as they represent me and the Borough in every citizen interaction.

The Brookhaven Police Department core values are:

- Respect
- Integrity
- Honor
- Service
- Trust
- Duty
- Courage

I look forward to further developing and strengthening relationships with everyone in the Borough as I strive to have the most professional and dedicated police department possible. In our efforts, however, I will continue to ask for the community to "help us help you." By this, I mean please take all efforts and precautions to help mitigate and/or eliminate crimes of opportunity in the Borough. Examples are locking vehicle doors and securing valuables out of view to prevent theft from vehicle incidents, as well as not leaving bicycles unsecured at your residences. These are simple steps that can help prevent you from becoming victims. Thank you.



The Mayor's Corner

By Mayor Michael S. Hess

.Now that the cooler months are upon us, it's good to recall out health and safety themes. It's a well know fact that regular exercise and proper diet are must for healthy living. We encourage you to come join the many walkers during the morning and evening hours who take advantage of our beautiful Walking Trail or who walk inside in the gym each day. It's a good way to stay fit and meet some new friends and neighbors.

We are hearing more and more concerns about speeding or not coming to a complete stop at stop signs. What we find is that most of the speeding is due to our own residents and several of those residents can attest as they have received warnings and/or citations. We have added a number of new electronic speed signs that we rotate regularly along with painting white Stop Bars on the street at the stop signs. We ask all residents to help support our motor safety rules, especially with the children going back and forth to school. We also ask for support that you do NOT use your cell phone while driving. Statistics have shown most accidents occur when distracted.

I'm sure by now everyone is aware that I swore in our new Chief of Police Matthew Kurten on June 17th. Chief Kurten comes to us with 22 years of law enforcement experience with the Wilmington, DE police department. Chief Kurten was a Captain and served on many tactical teams as Commander. In the short time Chief Kurten has been with us he has brought a new look to our police department along with upgraded

technology and polices. We are pleased to have Chief Kurten as part of the Brookhaven family.

We worked hard and long with Penn Dot to get our left turn signals at Edgmont Ave. and Coebourn and Cambridge Roads. As always your safety is our concern and please let us know if you have a particular issue on your street. Don't forget calling 9-1-1 is for both non emergencies and emergencies in Brookhaven and all of Delaware County. Do not hesitate to call 9-1-1 for anything that might seem out of the ordinary or suspicious whether it be police or fire related.

Remember to "Buy Brookhaven". Be safe!



A Firefighter's View

by

Chief Rob Montella, Jr.

THE Officers and Members of the Brookhaven Fire Company enjoyed meeting many of you at the Fire Prevention and Safety table at Family Day. Please remember to maintain and check your smoke detector and carbon monoxide detector batteries. It is also a good time to review fire escape routes with your family.

As the cooler weather approaches check that your heater is working properly and change the air filters. Make certain that the chimney is clean and free of cracks. A poorly maintained heater can cause incomplete combustions which can result in high levels of carbon monoxide inside the residence. If you have a CO detector activation, call 911 immediately and get everyone out of the house.

We are always looking for new volunteer Firefighters and EMT'S. You can stop by the station and Tuesday evening or Saturday morning to see what we do, ask questions and tour the station.



A Fire Marshal's Report by Fire Marshal Charles E. Leslie

Holiday Fire Safety Tips

As the holidays approach, the Brookhaven Fire Marshal's Office is urging people to look for and eliminate potential dangers from holiday lights and decorations that could lead to fires and injuries. Each year, hospitals emergency rooms treat thousands of people for injuries, such as falls, cuts, and shocks from holiday lights, decorations, and Christmas trees. In addition, Christmas trees are involved in hundreds of fires each year, resulting in deaths, injuries, and property loss and damage. Keep your family **SAFE** this holiday season by following these safety tips.

Trees:

When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "**Fire Resistant**", although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly. When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles. When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators. Because heated rooms dry live trees out rapidly, be sure to keep the stand filled with water. Place the tree out of the way of foot traffic and do not block doorways.

Lights:

Indoor or outside, only use lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory, which indicates conformance with safety standards. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets. Use no more than three standard-size sets of lights per single extension cord. For added electric-shock protection, plug outdoor electric lights and decorations into circuits protected by ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs). Portable outdoor GFCIs can be purchased where electrical supplies are sold. GFCIs can be installed permanently to household circuits by a qualified electrician.

Decorations:

Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not

be knocked down. In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a child to eat them

Fireplaces:

Do not remove fireplace embers or ash, or if you do, place them in a metal container filled with water and cover with a lid. Do not place them in a plastic or paper bag or other container that is not fire-resistant. Do not dispose of them indoors or close to your home or other structures.

Use care with "FIRE SALTS", which produce colored flames when thrown on wood fires. They contain heavy metals that can cause intense gastrointestinal irritation and vomiting if eaten. Keep them away from children. **DO NOT BURN WRAPPING PAPERS** in the fireplace. A flash fire may result as wrapping paper ignites suddenly and burns intensely.

HAVE A FIRE SAFE HOLIDAY....



Report from Councilwoman Denise Leslie

TRASH - Please note TV's DO NOT go out in trash on Wednesdays. All pizza boxes and plastic bags are regular trash. Please call the borough office 610-874-2557 if you have a trash complaint.

RECYCLABLES - ALL RECYCLABLES MUST BE LOOSE IN A RECYCLE CONTAINER -- NOT IN PLASTIC BAGS.

Brown paper bags, glass, cans, newspapers and cardboard are recyclables
PLASTICS MARKED WITH A DIAMOND 1, 2, OR 3 ARE RECYCLABLES.

Any cardboard that gets wet will be considered regular trash.

Shredding events will occur 2 times during the year. Keep an eye out on the borough calendar, TV channel, digital sign and borough website for the dates and times.

(The Borough will no longer host the Electronics Events)

Veterans Day Service will be on Saturday November 9, 2019 at 10:00 am on the Memorial Island. The American Legion Post 94 meets on the 2nd Thursday of every month between Sept.

and May at 7 pm at the Borough Hall. Don't forget our Public Fire Safety Officials will come by your home and do an inspections of your smoke and CO detectors for free. We also offer discounted prices if you are in need of a replacement smoke or CO detector. Call the Borough Office at 610-874-2557 to get an inspection appointment set up.

Have a safe and warm winter!

**Liaison to Zoning Board & Recreation Comm., Member Grant Condo Assoc. & Long Range Development
By Councilman James LaPera**

With summer winding down we see the end of lazy days on the beach and baseball and softball games are done for the year, we start turning our thoughts to fall and winter. The holidays are right around the corner and if you are looking for something to do before the craziness begins, The Brookhaven Recreation Board has a full slate of activities and events for all Brookhaven residents.

Saturday October 26th is the Trunk or Treat event from 2pm – 5pm. The event is free to all but tickets are required. The rain date is Saturday, November 2nd. Friday November 15 th is the Murder Mystery Dinner being held in the community room. Tickets are \$45.00 each or \$85.00 per couple. Professional actors put on an interactive show with dinner and dessert included.

Sunday December 13 th is the Senior Luncheon. Luncheon starts at 1pm and the doors open at 12:30pm. Luncheon is open to Brookhaven residents only and tickets are required. It includes lunch, dessert and beverages. Sunday December 13th is also the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Pictures with Santa. Tree lighting starts at 6pm with horse & carriage rides and light refreshments. Open to all. And finally, Sunday December 13th is the Gingerbread House Event which starts at 6:30pm. Cost is approximately \$15.00 per house. Price includes all supplies to build a gingerbread house and a baker from Sinfully Delicious Bakery to show you how to build it. Please check the borough website to get more info on all the events and all other things going on in the borough.



**Chair Business and Revitalization
Chair Ordinance Committee,
Member Condo Association
School Board Liaison,
Co-Chair Technology Committee,
Member of Grant Committee,
Member of Long Term and
Comprehensive Plans**

by

Councilwoman Donna Fooks

Brookhaven Borough is the talk of the county! Lots of new businesses now here such as Chili's, Chick fil A, Freddy's, Beer Barn, Driven To Drive, Elwyn Adult Day Care (Brookhaven Shopping Center) as well as a few others in the works. Listen monthly to the council meeting recordings for business/residential updates.

Our Ordinance Committee meets monthly (3rd Thursday of the month 6:30 pm) and is open to the public. We work diligently to keep Brookhaven residents safe. Many of our ordinances are on our website. Please visit www.brookhavenboro.com then select Documents – Selected Ordinances. Just a reminder.. winter will be here before we know it and sidewalks (residential and business), especially critical near bus stops, must be shoveled within 24 hours after a snowfall.

The Technology Committee is working with The Association of Boroughs to again change the appearance of our website. It will flow better and will be a little easier to find important information. The Technology Committee continues to do great things to keep our resident informed, such as meeting recordings, website modifications and eventually emergency notifications. Please note, our current website is still up and running and we encourage all residents (especially new residents) to visit it for important information they may not be aware of, such as trash news, events, reminders, polling places, etc. www.brookhavenboro.com If interested in hearing Penn Delco news or have a question/concern, the Penn Delco School Board meetings are held every 4th Wednesday of the month in the District Service Center Building (near Ice Works) beginning 7:30 pm (unless otherwise noted).

As always, please feel free to email me at donna.fooks@brookhavenboro.com or send me a facebook message with questions if easier.

**PLEASE NOTE! There will be ONLY ONE WEEK PICKUP OF LEAVES in each zone
2019 Leaf Collection Schedule**

Attached is the 2019 Leaf Collection Schedule. Each Zone will be picked up starting the Monday of your designated zone date for a period of one week, Mon. thru Fri. **All leaves must be out by Sunday evening.** Please gather leaves only (no other debris). NEXT TO CURBLINE-NOT IN THE STREET. Leaves must be curbside the Sunday before your zone date to insure pickup. **Please Save These Pages for Reference!**

2019-2020 Trash, Bulk Trash and Recyclables Schedule

Regular TrashEvery Wednesday

Bulk Trash.....Every Wednesday-Maximum -3 bulk items

Recyclables.....Every Wednesday

Newspapers, Glass, Aluminum, Tin Cans, Cardboard, Cereal Boxes, No Pizza Boxes, Paperback and Hardback Books, Mail with identification removed & Plastics #1 thru #6

*Recyclables cannot be put in Plastic Bags.

*Trash/Recyclables/Bulk Trash items should be placed at the curb on or after 6:00 p.m. on the Tuesday evening before the Wednesday pick-up. NO EARLIER. ALL ITEMS should be placed at the curb no later than 6:00 a.m. Wednesday morning to insure pickup. **ONLY 3 BAGS OF YARD WASTE WILL BE TAKEN.** Construction materials are not accepted for trash pickup. (Wood, cement blocks, etc. This information does not apply to the residents of Hilltop Condos, Trimble Run Condos, Stonehill Apartments or Traditions at Ridley Creek because Brookhaven Borough is not responsible to pick up their trash or recyclables because they have their own disposal service.

Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 1	Zone 2
Monday, November 18	Monday, November 25	Monday, December 9	Monday, December 16
Bridgewater Road Brookwood Place Charles Avenue Clearwater Lane	Argyle Road Aucott Road Barlow Avenue Bradbury Road E. Brookhaven Road Cambridge Road Carpenter Circle Cooper Road E. Garrison Road Grandview Avenue Hillside Avenue Houston Street Kenney Lane East Maple Avenue Marshall Road Meadowbrook Lane Ricks Circle Ridge Boulevard Roberts Road Ruth Road Scola Road Seiger Street Spring Street Virginia Avenue Ward Street Wellington Avenue	Adams Drive Camelot Drive Chandler Drive Chester Creek Road Coebourn Blvd. Conley Circle DeMaio Drive Duttons Mill Road Grant Drive North Gray Street Greenwood Street Jackson Drive James Place Jefferson Drive Lancelot Place Lincoln Drive Lister Street Madison Drive W. Maple Avenue Marianne Drive Melvin Drive Monroe Drive	Arlington Avenue W. Brookhaven Road Burk Avenue N. Clearwater Lane Commerce Avenue- Trimble to Edwards Donegal Lane Edgewood Lane Edwards Drive S. Gray Street John Drive
Commerce Avenue- Trimble to Mt. Vernon	East Maple Avenue Marshall Road Meadowbrook Lane Ricks Circle Ridge Boulevard Roberts Road Ruth Road Scola Road Seiger Street Spring Street Virginia Avenue Ward Street Wellington Avenue Williamson Avenue Zoar Street	Mt. Vernon Ave.-Brookhaven Road to	Mt. Vernon Avenue- Trimble to W. Brookhaven
Commerce Circle Deepwater Lane Edgewater Lane W. Forrestview Road Janney Avenue Morris Avenue		Chandler Drive	Ridgewood Lane Susan Lane Trimble Boulevard
Mt. Vernon Avenue- Trimble to Upland Road Eleventh Street Nathan Avenue Patton Avenue School House Lane Swiftwater Lane		School Lane Shepherd Street Sir Galahad Drive Sweeney Circle Woodland Avenue	Victor Avenue-Trimble to N. Clearwater Lane
Victor Avenue - Trimble To Upland Road			PLEASE SAVE THIS LEAF COLLECTION SCHEDULE!
Upland Road Washington Avenue			
BOROUGH SCHEDULE			



Notable Briefs



Building Inspector Bob Grant asks our residents to please call the Borough office 610-874-2557 x133 to clarify if they require a permit for any work being done at their property. Calling the Borough office can avoid any fines for work without a permit.

Residents and/or Contractors are **not** allowed to blow/sweep grass clippings in the street, because the clippings clog the storm drains and clippings enter the creek water system. Owners will be cited if this occurs.

Borough Secretary Mary McKinley reminds our residents that Trash and Recycling should be set apart from each other at curbside. It should be placed curbside after 6:00 PM Tuesday night or before 7:00 AM Wednesday morning.

Residents must call **9.1.1** for any reason they need a police officer or officers. The **9.1.1** center will have a record of the call.

TRASH rebate is available for Senior citizens. If your household income does not exceed \$25,000.00 you could possibly be entitled to a 50% rebate. If your household income does not exceed \$12,500.00 you may be entitled to 100% rebate. Forms are available at the Municipal Center office after January 1st. **Rebate deadline is June 30, 2020. All documentation must be complete .**

Residents must call 8.1.1 before you dig.

The 2020 Chipper Schedule

March
9th to 20th

May
11th to 22nd

July
13th to 24th

Sept. to Oct.
14th to 25th

Branches are to be put curbside the night before the scheduled date. **Branches should be 3 ft. or longer and must be from your own home.** All cut ends must go in same direction. The chipper crew will spend a maximum of 15 minutes at your home. Only one chipping appointment per chipping period. No vehicles parked in front. Six inch diameter max on branches. Call office for appointment at 610-874-2557 Ext. 3.

CHRISTMAS TREES WILL BE COLLECTED JAN. 2ND THROUGH Jan. 31ST 2020. PLEASE PLACE AT CURB. DO NOT PUT IN PLASTIC BAGS. NO LIGHTS, NO BALLS, NO STANDS, NO ARTIFICIAL TREES! Remove all decorations!

SNOW REMOVAL PROCEDURES

by

Department of Public works

The following are the procedure for snow removal. Please bear with us during snow storms. Thank You!

- When a snow is predicted from a coating to two inches, it will be controlled by spreading deicing material.
- When a larger storm is predicted, some pre-salting of hills and curves will take place before the snowfall to prevent ice packing of those areas.
- After the snow falls, all streets will be salted to prevent snow from ice packing on the macadam.
- Plowing will start after 3 inches fall. Plowing will continue throughout the storm of all streets as snow accumulates 4-5 inches at a time. This process could take place numerous times until the storm stops. Snow will be pushed back as far to the curb line as possible.
- After the snow stops, final plowing will start. Snow will be pushed back as far as possible to the curb line in the event of another storm coming before present snow melts. After final plowing, all streets will be salted a final time.
- The first priority is the plowing of the main streets (most traveled), second will be the less traveled and third will be the circles.
- After the plowing and salted is finished, residents or contractors who throw snow back into the streets will be fined per Ordinance 680.06. The borough **will not come back** to remove any snow that was put back into the streets after plowing was completed.



Brookhaven Borough Calendar



November 4	Council Meeting - Municipal Center 7:00 PM
November 5	General Election - Polls are Open 7:00 AM – 8:00 PM
November 9	Veterans' Day Service - Memorial Island 10:00 AM
November 23	Holiday Parade – Step off 2:00 PM – Our Lady of Charity Parking Lot
November 25	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
November 30	Town Watch Annual Arts & Craft Fair at Municipal Center 9AM-3PM Forms are available in the Office for the <u>Remembrance Tree</u> . Tags are \$2.00 each. They are In Memory or In Honor of a loved one.
December 2	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
December 8	Annual Senior Luncheon – Municipal Center 1:00 PM
December 8	Tree Lighting Ceremony – Municipal Center 6:00 PM
December 8	Free Pictures with Santa – Municipal Center 6:00 PM
December 16	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
January 2-31	Collection of Christmas Trees
January 6	Council Reorganization – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
January 13	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
January 27	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
February 3	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
February 24	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
March 2	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
March 23	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
April 6	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
April 11	Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 AM – Free Pictures with Bunny 10:00 AM
April 21	Primary Election - Polls are Open 7:00AM - 8:00 PM
April 27	Council Workshop – Municipal Center 7:00 PM
May 4	Council Meeting – Municipal Center 7:00 PM