



LAFLIN BOROUGH

NEWSLETTER

47 LAFLIN ROAD
LAFLIN, PA 18702-7213
LUZERNE COUNTY, PA

Spring 2017 ♦ May 12, 2017

Laflin Borough Officials:

Council

Glen Gubitose, President
Lisa Natt, Vice-President
Sandra Falcone
Carl Yastremski
Jamie Andrews

Mayor

Hon. Dorothy Shea Yazurlo

Administration / Tax Collector

Charles Boyd

Code Enforcement Officer

Gregory Gulick

Zoning & Planning

Luzerne Co. Planning Comm.

Borough Engineer

Pennoni Associates, Inc.

Borough Solicitor

Stephen Menn, Esq.

Fire Chief / EMA Coordinator

Marc Malvizzi

Librarian

Nancy Coassolo

Recreation Board

David Genovese
Stacy Christmas
Christine Abbey
Linda Gubitose
Angela Reese

Glen Gubitose, Council President

Greetings Fellow Citizens:

Great things are happening in Laflin over the next few months and this newsletter is to keep you all informed of what is happening.

Infrastructure and paving projects will be happening in the next few weeks on seven of our streets. They include, Laurelwood Drive, Sprucewood Drive, Cedarwood Drive, Redwood Drive, Oakhill Drive, Ashwood Drive and the lower section of Haverford Drive. Please be patient with us as we strive to improve our community.

Over the past year and a half we have been working with Jenkins Township, Pittston Township, Dupont and with Representative Mike Carroll

and Senator John Yudichak, forming a regional police department

There are still many details to be worked out, but great progress has been made in the past few months and the realization of a regionalized police department is on the horizon. As always the meetings are open to the public, please visit the Laflin Borough website for dates and times of upcoming meetings.

Our Recreation Board is taking applications for summer counselors. Please contact Chuck Boyd at our borough building for applications and further details.

In accordance with council's pledge to transparency in government, there are many

reports, as well as great information on the borough's website. Please take some time to visit the website for the latest TRUE AND ACCURATE information about everything that is happening in our borough.

As always, our door is always open if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Chuck Boyd at our borough office and a council person will contact you directly.

Transparent government is what we strive to show. It is the foundation of our council.

Wishing you, and your families, a safe and happy summer.

Thank you for allowing me to serve you,

*Glen Gubitose
Council President*

Mayor Dorothy Shea Yazurlo

Report to the Citizens of Laflin

I have been a resident of Laflin since 1967 and your Mayor for the past ten years. I was a founding member of the Laflin Library which was established in 1972. This is the jewel of our community and is a state-of-the-art library. We are the only Borough, with a population under 2,000, to have such a library. To establish the Dewey Decimal System in our Library, we petitioned the Wilkes-Barre Council to provide CETA workers. The accounting was done, pro-bono. The incorporation was also done pro-bono, both by husbands of the original women whose dream was realized when the Borough Council in 1999 moved the library into its present quarters. The library will celebrate its 45th Anniversary in September, 2017 and all our citizens are invited to the celebration.

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... continued from cover page 1 — Mayor Dorothy Shea Yazurlo

During my tenure as Mayor, I have worked with three different Councils. I would like to thank the present council for its continuing respect for me and for all members of our community. Its members have worked long and hard to provide our Borough with a safe place to live and raise their families. For the first time, a member of Council has donated her entire salary to our library. Our Council President, who has a long history of service to our community, is always available to answer citizen's questions.

As you have read, the State Police are planning to charge every community for their services. They need to do this since they have not been able to hire enough officers to fill their vacancies. Our State Police Representative, Trooper Deanne Piekanski, keeps us informed of any State Police activity in our areas. She indicated that while for several years the State Police were understaffed, this is now a major concern. While the original amount considered is \$25.00 per person, as stated in our newspapers, the actual cost exceeds \$200.00 per person.

The answer is, of course, regionalization. Our State Representative Michael Carroll endorses this concept and grants to get started are available. A meeting was held in our Borough to discuss this plan and was attended by representatives from Jenkins, Dupont, Pittston Township, and Laflin. Among the things discussed was the need in Laflin for policing of Laflin Road where overweight trucks continue to be a problem. While we had a Police Department, our income from these patrols was substantial. The Northeast Regional Police Force will be staffed by permanent officers. If you have a problem, their response time will be generally five minutes. While our State Police do their best with their small staffs, their response time to problems is often over one-half hour.

We will honor all our veterans with a Ceremony on Memorial Day at the Creekside Memorial Playground at 11:00am. This Memorial Day ceremony is dedicated to all who served for the glory of God and country from Laflin Borough. If you are a veteran, and do not know if we have your name, please check with our Borough Manager, Chuck Boyd. Save the date, May 29, 2017, and plan to join your neighbors.

My seventeen- year old granddaughter, who lives in Laflin, is in Peru as a Rotary Exchange Student. She has been there since July and will be back in June. She tells me how this experience has increased her love for her country. She sent me this quotation: "Kind Words Will Unlock an Iron Door-A Turkish Proverb". My hope is that you will continue to have "kind words" for each other.

**Laflin Neighborhood Crime Watch
and
Laflin Volunteer Fire Dept.**

Presents

**“America’s Night Out Against
Crime”**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017

Behind the Laflin Borough Building

47 Laflin Road, Laflin PA 18702



6:00PM – 8:00PM

* FREE FOOD * FUN * DEMOS * PSP

* LIFE FLIGHT *

DA'S OFFICE * COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Laflin Borough Website

www.LaflinBoro.com

Have you visited our website before? When you visit now, you might notice that it looks different this time. That's because we've updated the site with a new design and some new features. We hope you like what you see. It's still under construction and much more will be added in the future (like this newsletter, mtg. minutes council agendas, engineering reports and studies).

Please let us know what you think or give us your suggestions.

Plains Ambulance Medic 2

The Plains Ambulance Assoc. annual subscription fund drive will be mailed in late May or early June. The annual donation subscription request was delayed this year.

The ambulance association's calendar year will run from July 1st to June 30th every year.

Contact Angela at the Plains Ambulance Association for more information at (570) 822-9279.

Laflin Rec Board

LaflinRecBoard@yahoo.com

Laflin Borough Council would like to welcome new recreation board member:

David Genovese
Stacy Christmas
Christine Abbey
Linda Gubitose
Angela Reese

At the same time we applaud the immediate past board members for their dedicated volunteer service to our community. Sandra Yastremski, Noelle Benderavich, Alisa Menendez and Robin Monahan.

Lisa Natt, Council Vice-President

New MS4 Stormwater System Mandates by EPA

MS4 Stormwater Regionalization

Below is a small excerpt regarding MS4 Stormwater Regionalization. Please visit the Borough website at <http://laflinboro.com> to review the full Fact Sheet and frequently asked questions listed under Town Notices Section on the right.

Increasing Regulatory Requirements

As the result of The Chesapeake Bay Agreement of 1983, The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has mandated the governance of stormwater and reduction of pollutants entering the Chesapeake Bay. The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) ensures affected municipalities satisfy these mandates through the imposition of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) permits, first issued in 2003. New requirements of the 2018 MS4 Permit include the following:

1. Implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) by 2023 to reduce sediment pollution from each municipality by 10%, phosphorus by 5% and nitrogen by 3%.
2. Implementation of BMP's by 2023 to reduce pollution in the drainage area of impaired waterways in each municipality.
3. Complete Chesapeake Bay Pollution Reduction Planning and impaired water pollution reduction planning by September 2017.
4. Complete mapping of stormwater infrastructure for use in developing PRPs.
5. Complete Pollution Control Measure (PCM) mapping and analysis (related to acid mine drainage and priority organic compounds.)
6. Develop adequate staffing and funding to complete the above items while continuing to implement the six Minimum Control Measures, and submit annual Status Update Reports.

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MS4 permits are renewed in five year cycles. It is assumed that requirements of the permit will continue to increase in future years and will be supported via WVSA. Current permit requirements are an unfunded mandate which would place a significant strain on municipal budgets.

Benefits of Regionalization

Regional stormwater management enables watershed based planning and implementation; a more holistic solution to stormwater management problems at a fraction of the cost.

- Under a “per municipal” approach to MS4 permit compliance, each municipality would bear the cost of developing their own pollution reduction plans and siting BMPs within their municipality, and within the drainage area of impaired waterways, in order to ensure the required pollutant load reductions (10% sediment, 5% phosphorus and 3% nitrogen) are met.
- Under a regional approach in Wyoming Valley, DEP will accept a single Chesapeake Bay pollution reduction plan for all 36 municipalities and six watershed based plans for the Region.

If a municipality were to complete Pollution Reduction Planning and implementation on their own, they are limited to the available land in their municipality and, in many cases, in the drainage area of an impaired stream. A regional plan provides significant flexibility in that the BMPs may be located anywhere within the watershed. This provides the opportunity to site and select BMP’s in ways which provide the greatest pollutant reduction for the lowest cost. In the case of the Wyoming Valley Region, regional Pollution Reduction Planning results in a reduced number of required BMP’s for permit compliance which cuts the average cost per municipality by more than half.

The region will experience additional savings as economies of scale are realized in tackling MCM’s, and fixed administrative costs are spread over a larger number of property owners. In future years, a regional approach to existing infrastructure operation, maintenance and improvements will yield even more cost savings.

Information provided from the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority

Laflin Borough Community-Wide Yard Sale Planned by Lisa Natt

The Laflin Community Yard Sale will be Saturday, June 3rd from 8 am to 3 pm. We will be doing a map again of those people in the community participating in the event to allow shoppers to locate all yard sales. I will only list the house number, I will not be putting any names on the maps. Please register with me on Nextdoor Laflin in a private message with your name and address OR come to the Borough office to complete a paper that you will be participating. There is no fee for registering, I just need everyone's information by Friday, May 26th so we have plenty of time to get the map completed and printed for the event. The maps will be placed at the Borough Building the day of the event. We will also be placing ads in both local papers and Craigslist to announce the event and that a map will be available.

Laflin Crime Watch

Over the past several months Laflin Crime Watch has increased in numbers and continues to monitor the streets of Laflin Borough.

I, together with the Laflin Volunteer Fire Department, Jamie Andrews and Drew Malvizzi will be co-chairing "National Night Out" on August 1st, 2017 at 6:00pm. Food and fun for all!

Laflin citizen Bob Cunningham recently did a seminar entitled "Refuse to Be a Victim". All who attended found it very informative to the community. We will be conducting another seminar this fall, check the Laflin Borough website for dates and times.

As always, if you see something that just doesn't seem right, call 911.

Stay Safe,
Glen Gubitose
Crime Watch Chairman



Pictured left to right:
Former Police Chief Bob Pinkos, Robert Cunningham
and the Crime Watch Chairman, Glen Gubitose.

Laflin Crime Watch Meetings are the first
Monday of the month at 7:00pm in the borough bldg.

Road Milling and Paving Work Scheduled in the Borough

Road paving work will commence in the borough, weather permitting, this month. The following roads are scheduled for paving starting the week of May 15th and will be funded by way of casino grant funds awarded to the borough by the Dept. of Community & Economic Development (DCED). The award was for \$125,000.00.

Laurelwood Drive ♦ Redwood Drive ♦ Oakhill Drive ♦ E. Ashwood Drive

The second phase of milling and paving will be completed this June by a separate paving contractor. The roads in the second phase:

Cedarwood Drive ♦ Sprucewood Drive ♦ Lower Haverford Drive

During the milling phase base repairs will be completed and stormwater catch basins will be adjusted. Asphalt curbing will be installed to complete the work. This work schedule is weather sensitive and could change.

Access to your driveways, although limited, will be available during this process. No vehicle will be allowed to be parked on the street while this work is being done and vehicles should be off the street by 7:00am. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience this project may cause and thank you for your continued cooperation and support in making Laflin a better place. If you have any questions regarding this process, contact the borough office at 654-3323.

Mailbox Adjustments due to Curb Installation

Due to curb replacement and new curb installation, borough residents may need to adjust the location of mailboxes to meet the specifications of the U.S. Postal Service. The distance from the curb to the face of the mailbox may need to be adjusted to allow for proper access. These specifications can be found on the Laflin Borough website under notices at www.LaflinBoro.com.

**L A F L I N B O R O U G H
M U N I C I P A L B L D G .
4 7 L A F L I N R O A D
L A F L I N , P A 1 8 7 0 2 - 7 2 1 3**

Phone: 570-654-3323
Fax: 570-602-2288
E-mail: LaflinBoro@comcast.net

Laflin Borough Dates to Remember:

Remaining 2017

Council Meetings:

- ◇ June 13th
- ◇ July 11th
- ◇ August 8th
- ◇ September 12th
- ◇ October 10th
- ◇ November 14th
- ◇ December 12th

2nd Tuesday of the Month
at 7pm in the
Borough Bldg. Mtg. Room

Remaining 2017

Refuse / Recycling
Holiday Schedule:

Memorial Day
Wednesday, 5/31

Independence Day
Wednesday, 7/5
Trash/Recycling/Bulk

Labor Day
Wednesday, 9/6
Trash/Recycling/Bulk

Christmas/New Year's
Changed to Wednesdays

Memorial Day

Celebration Event:

Monday, May 29th at
11am Creekside Park.

Community-wide

Garage/Yard Sale:

Saturday, June 3rd
from 8am to 3pm.

National Night Out
Event:

Tuesday, August 1st
6pm to 8pm.

Laflin Rec Board

Summer Camp:

Summer camp will run from June 26th to July 30th. Camp days are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9:00am to 12 noon. Registration required and the camp is open to children and grandchildren of Laflin residents ages 5 to 12.

Camp counselors with required clearances are needed. If over 18 yrs. old contact the borough if interested. EOE

More details at our boro website.