



MINERS' JOURNAL

Official Publication



Borough of Minersville

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BOROUGH OF MINERSVILLE, PA

October 2024

Borough and Sewer Authority Projects Update

Minersville On The Move! Here's What's Happening

Greetings all! I hope you were able to enjoy time with family and friends over the summer. As always, I want to give you an update on Borough happenings.



Bob Mahalchick
Borough Manager

Streets maintenance

Street sweeping for the year will cease on October 31. Resuming again in the spring, you will be notified of the start date via the Borough online homepage, Facebook page, and the *Miners Journal*.

The Borough Streets Department will continue to address potholes by filling them, milling out wider problematic areas, and then paving as material is available from our supplier, Pottsville Material.

We do call on a daily basis for availability to address street repairs. But, due to several major PennDOT projects in progress, supply has been a

challenge as they have priority over municipalities in the supply chain.

Our Street Crew compiles an ongoing list of areas needing road repairs. If you are aware of a missed pothole, please contact the Borough Office and a work order will be generated. Crack sealing of areas where the road has developed spiderweb cracks is ongoing to extend the life of the roadway.

In the area of road maintenance projects, I ask all to abide signage and/or personnel regarding traffic, etc. Any violation of these safety rules will be reported to the police department, and the violators will be cited.

A reminder, please follow all property maintenance ordinances regarding grass, weeds, etc. Property maintenance applies to your sidewalk as well. Owners of properties overgrown with weeds will be ticketed. With winter approaching, please ensure that your sidewalk is clear of ice and snow. Our Code Enforcement Officer will be strictly enforcing the ordinance. It is your responsibility to maintain your property so as not to negatively impact the quality of life of your neighbors.

With the winter months closing in on us, we remind you to follow all snow-related ordinances and show courtesy to our street staff and your neighbors during snow events.

Sewer Authority news

Repairs of the significant damage resulting from the March 26 fire at the pump building are ongoing. The building houses effluent pumps, a SCADA monitoring device, and the electrical panel and wiring powering those devices. As of this publication, our progress included interior cleaning with a dry ice pro-

- Continued on Page 2

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

HALLOWEEN PARADE – Come out for a hauntingly good time and watch a parade of costumed characters at the annual Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 27. The parade forms at 6:30 p.m. and steps off at 7. There will be plenty of shrieks and thrills along with treats for the children. Want to have more fun? Dress up in your favorite costume and join in the parade! More info on Page 4

RAIN DATE - TUESDAY, OCT. 29

TRICK OR TREAT – Thursday, October 31 will find the Borough filled with ghosts, goblins, witches, superheroes and a host of other characters as Minersville holds its annual trick-or-treat night from 6 to 8 p.m. The children look forward to this event and residents are encouraged to participate by leaving their porch light on so the children know they are welcome to ring the bell and get a treat.



RAIN DATE - FRIDAY, NOV. 1

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2024 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

2 East Sunbury Street
 Minersville, PA 17954 • Ph: 570-544-2149
 Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
www.minersvillepa.gov

OFFICIALS

Mayor..... Sean Palmer
 Chief of Police Jeff Bowers
 President of Council Ian Mahal
 Borough Manager..... Bobby Mahalchick
 Secretary Gloria Capik
 Treasurer Megan Paul
 Tax Receiver..... Heidi Hashin
 Solicitor..... Albert Evans
 Borough Engineer Entech Engineering, Inc.
 Fire Chief..... Eric Eichenberg
 Code Enforcement..... Kyle Crouse
 Health Officer..... Kyle Crouse
 Emergency Mgmt. Coord..... Eric Eichenberg

COUNCIL

Jeff Enders • Justin Frantz
 Jamie S. Kuehn • M. Ian Mahal • Donna Palmer
 Terry Raffety • Joseph Slovick

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jeffrey Bowers, Chief
 Matthew Bartal • Cody Searfoss
 Brian Gossert • Joseph Kavanaugh
 Jakob Kerby • Ryan Murphy
 Leo Securda • Eric Wilson
 Leigh Ann Cielinski, Secretary

STREET DEPARTMENT

Edwin Houser, Street Supervisor
 Martin Brophy • Matthew Leiby • Jake Lyash

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Raymond Sukeena, Supervisor
 Joseph Carvajal

WATER DEPARTMENT

Melanie Spittler, Manager / Plant Operator
 Raymond Bosack • John Hopkins
 Michael Mennig, Jr. • Donald Troutman, Jr.

BOROUGH OFFICE

Megan Paul, Office Manager
 Leigh Ann Cielinski • Jennifer Hossler

Minersville Borough Council meets the First and Second Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Water Authority Building on North Delaware Avenue. Both meetings are open to the public. A Work Session takes place on the First Tuesday. The Business Meeting is then held on the Second Tuesday.

2024 OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Minersville Borough offices will be closed in 2024 in observance of the stated holidays - Presidents Day, Feb. 19; Good Friday (half day, close at 11 a.m.), March 29; Memorial Day, May 27; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 2; Columbus Day, Oct. 14; Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving and day after, Nov. 28 and 29; Christmas, Dec. 24 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Dec. 25; New Year's, Dec. 31 (half day, close at 11 a.m.), Jan. 1, 2025.

State of the Borough

- Continued from Page 1

cess and painting; electrical breaker replacements are 50% completed; new lighting and heater have been installed; a new four pump motors have been replaced; a control panel has been ordered, but still needs to be put into service; a garage door and walk door have been replaced; and sump pumps are on order.



Until the repairs are completed, a temporary system has been utilized to ensure continued operation of the plant.

And, some seasonal reminders

As the fall season turns to winter, it is prudent to mention a few safety reminders and tidbits. Have your heating system checked and chimney inspected. Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Maintain your vehicles to avoid dead batteries, bald tires, ineffective windshield wipers, etc.

Wishing you and your families a healthy, safe, happy, and enjoyable fall and winter. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve all of you and provide you with this update on the State of OUR Borough.

MINERSVILLE ON THE MOVE!



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Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Halloween parade is Sunday, Oct. 27

Minersville knows how to celebrate Halloween! Activities kick off on Sunday, Oct. 27 with the annual Halloween Parade of ghouls, goblins, super heroes, princesses, service organizations and floats, business entries, and fire and ambulance vehicles. Inclement weather could postpone the parade until Tuesday, Oct. 29.

Supported by area businesses and organized by the Minersville Recreation Board and Miners Fire-Rescue, parade entrants will form at 6:30 p.m. on the “visitors’ parking lot” adjacent to the Minersville Area Football Stadium.

HALLOWEEN PARADE

The parade will begin promptly at 7 p.m. traveling south onto 4th Street; left onto North Street; right onto North Delaware Avenue; right onto Sunbury Street; right onto 5th Street; right onto North Street; and then concluding on N. 4th Street at Quandel’s lot.

Marching groups, floats, bands, vehicles, and individuals wanting to be in the parade **MUST** register in advance. Adherence to this policy is for the safety of our participants. Complete the entry form found here and return to the Borough Office in advance by October 25. The parade entry form is also available on the Borough’s Facebook page at [minersvilleborough](https://www.facebook.com/minersvilleborough).



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HALLOWEEN PARADE ENTRY FORM

Name of Organization: _____

Primary Contact: _____

Primary Contact Info:
Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail address: _____

We plan to enter a: (circle one or more)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| FLOAT | BAND
in band _____ |
| MARCHING UNIT
of marchers _____ | OTHER
Describe _____ |

Mail completed form to:
 Minersville Borough
 2 E Sunbury St.
 Minersville, PA 17954

OR – Call to register: 570-544-2149

Trick-or-Treat on Halloween night

Youngsters dressed as ghosts, goblins, witches, and princesses will take to the streets on Halloween night - Thursday, Oct. 31 - for the Borough-designated Trick-or-Treat night from 6 to 8 p.m.

Children, 12-years of age and younger, are invited to participate, but should canvas streets in a group or accompanied by a responsible adult.

Residents are asked to have their porch light on, or some other inviting gestures, as a sign that the children are welcome to ring the bell and get a treat.

Parents and chaperones are asked to be diligent with young children when crossing streets and making them aware of vehicular traffic. Flashlights and reflective clothing are encouraged. Rain date is Friday, Nov. 1.



Santa is coming to Minersville

The Minersville Recreation Board will sponsor a Christmas parade on Sunday, Dec. 1, featuring the arrival of Santa Claus and welcoming the holiday season.

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Santa's reindeer will be resting for their Christmas Eve trip, but Santa will have other special transportation for the event. The fire truck parade will begin at 5:30 p.m.

Children will be able to visit with Santa at his South Fourth Street - Little League complex - location from 6 to 6:30 p.m. following the parade. The first 100 children will receive a special present from Santa.

Christmas Decorating Contest

The Minersville Lions Club announces its 5th annual Christmas Decorating Contest for homes and businesses. Its goal is to brighten spirits, neighborhoods, and to bring holiday cheer. The contest is open to the entire Minersville Area School District.

Here are the rules ...

1. Registration begins on November 29 and ends on December 13 at 11:59 p.m. The cost of entry is \$20. All payments and registration must be submitted by the deadline.
2. Exterior judging will take place Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 14-15. Please have lights turned on no later than 6:30 p.m. as judging will begin at 7 p.m.
3. There will be three categories:
 - a. Traditional - Lights, garland, wreaths, smaller scale
 - b. Modern - Blow ups, larger scale decorations, light show

c. Business - Anything goes

4. There will be prizes given to the top three places in each category
5. Winners will be announced at the Lions meeting on December 18.
6. Please fill out the form and send that with payment to the Minersville Lions Club, P.O. Box 461, Minersville, PA 17954

For any questions, refer to the Minersville Lions Facebook page or email akilburn.lions@gmail.com.

Project 113 Santa Train

Minersville's Railway Restoration Project 113 has
- Continued on Page 6

**5th Annual Minersville Lions
Christmas Decorating Contest
REGISTRATION FORM**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Traditional Modern Business

Mail With Contest Entry Fee Payment to:
Minersville Lions Club • P.O. Box 461 • Minersville, PA 17954



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Boro Services & Events!

- Continued from Page 5

scheduled Santa Train excursions on Saturday and Sunday, December 14-15. Visit their official website www.rrproject113.org for all the details and how to order tickets.

Borough Office holidays

The Minersville Borough offices and employee operations will be closed in observance of the following holidays for the balance of 2024: Monday, Nov. 11 (Veterans Day); Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28-29 (Thanksgiving); Tuesday, Dec. 24 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Wednesday, Dec. 25 (Christmas); Tuesday, Dec. 31 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Wednesday, Jan. 1 (New Year's Day).

Christmas Tree collection - one day only

Discard your cut Christmas tree following the holidays. The Borough will collect trees placed curbside on only one designated day - Friday, January 10, 2025. Be sure to have your tree out no later than 7 a.m. and that it is free of ornaments, bag, and stand. In the event of inclement weather, collection could be rescheduled to Friday, Jan. 17.

If you miss the designated collection day, it will be your responsibility to take the tree to the Borough's compost area at the end of North Delaware Ave. any day that the site is open. Trees must be recycled and will not be taken with regular garbage collection.

State Sen. David Argall

Unclaimed Funds for You?

My staff recently began a new project - connecting people with their unclaimed property.

Unclaimed property can include dormant bank accounts, abandoned stocks, uncashed checks, and more. Essentially, it is YOUR money that the state is holding on your behalf. I would MUCH rather see it back in your pocket than sitting in a state government bank account.



Senator David Argall

In the past few months, my office has contacted more than 150 people and worked to return more than \$400,000 in unclaimed property directly to their bank accounts. The amounts we've assisted with range greatly, from less than \$10 to more than \$10,000.

Many who we've helped had no idea their money was waiting to be claimed. An especially unique case involved Minersville. We were able to contact a daughter, having unclaimed property from her mother, who lived in the Minersville area more than 70 years ago. With some research, my office was able to connect her with this money that is now back in her hands!

If you would like us to check if YOU have unclaimed property, call my Pottsville office at 570-621-3400 or my Mahanoy City office at 570-773-0891 and we can get this process started for you today.

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A light lunch will be provided.

Especially for ages Kindergarten through 6th grade. Older children are welcome to attend.

Saturday, December 14, 2024

10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. FREE

Space is limited:

Register your child by calling 570-544-8042 or by email office@cefschuylkill.com by December 6, 2024

Includes: Games, crafts, a movie, food, and FUN!

LOCATION: CEF Office
101 High Road (Primrose area)

Children learn the Gospel, and the hope that only comes through knowing Jesus as Savior.

For more information contact:

CEF of Schuylkill County

Phone: 570-544-8042*Email: office@cefschuylkill.com

Website: www.cefschuylkill.com

All workers have been screened according to PA state law.

Lots Happening at the Minersville Public Library

Smokey the Bear visited the Minersville Public Library on August 22 to celebrate his 80th birthday at a party held at the Forever Friends Child Care, located next to the library. Children received activity sheets, a copy of Smokey's storybook and forest animal masks to welcome Smokey.

Smokey's assistant told Smokey's story and made sure everyone understood that playing with matches is dangerous. The children, library and day care staffs sang Happy Birthday to Smokey and enjoyed cupcakes and drinks. The Mountaineer Fire Company stopped by with a firetruck to give further information.



A Junior Rock Hounding event was held Sept. 14. Children received activity sheets and information to identify rocks and fossils. They dug in a pool of sand to find crystal clusters and geodes originally found locally. Each was given a "goody bag" containing iron pyrite, flourite and some other gems. Famous Reading Anthracite supplied each child with a local fossil.

A Schuylkill Community Foundation grant made these events possible.

Calling card game enthusiasts! Pinochle players meet every Wednesday beginning at 1 p.m.

The Library needs donations of ironing boards and irons for use in machine sewing classes set to get underway. Call the library if you can help.

Upcoming events

Our annual Purcell Brothers Bean Soup Sale and Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26. Soup is \$12 for a quart, but pre-ordering is a must.

In the planning stages is the Library's annual Christmas Basket Auction... watch the Library's Facebook page for details.

Looking skyward, a Celestron Astromaster 114 Telescope will be chanced off in January along with a National Geographic "Backyard Guide to the Sky" book and a list of 2025 celestial events.

Garden Club Scholars

South Schuylkill Garden Club officers, Pat Wishousky and Carol Haldeman, presented a \$1,000 scholarship award to each of two Minersville High School graduates - Luke Stevenosky and Jack Maley. Luke is attending East Stroudsburg University, majoring in Environmental Studies, and Jack is attending Penn State, majoring in Environmental Architecture.



Not all learning happens in a classroom!
It happens when a child feels connected and curious.

Going outside and observing insects offers pre-school children more than just playtime. It provides a positive impact on their physical development, social skills, creativity, and learning.

Here are just a few skills preschool children learn ...

- **MATH SKILLS** used include learning to count and recognize sums of groups
- **SOCIAL SKILLS** used include learning about empathy, respect, and curiosity
- **RESEARCH SKILLS** used include gathering information and solving problems
- **CLASSIFICATION SKILLS** used include learning to classify things based on unique shapes, colors, and patterns



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Kick Off the Holiday Season in Minersville; Welcome Santa on Dec. 1 with a Parade!



2024 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Minersville Borough Offices will be closed
 the following days*

- Monday - November 11 | Veterans Day
- Thursday - November 28th | Thanksgiving
- Friday - November 29th
- Wednesday - December 25th | Christmas
- Wednesday - January 1st | New Year's Day

The Borough Office will also close early at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31

*We wish you and your families a very safe and
 happy holiday season and look forward to a
 great new year of serving you.*

