



MINERS' JOURNAL

Official Publication



Borough of Minersville

www.minersvilleonline.com

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BOROUGH OF MINERSVILLE, PA

August 2018

23rd Annual Gala Promises Full Day of Food, Fun & Entertainment

Spirit Day is Sept. 9; New Activities Featured

The 23rd annual Spirit Day is set for Sunday, Sept. 9. The celebration of Minersville's Spirit will go on



rain or shine on North Street stretching from Second to Fourth streets, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This year the event is going to be bigger and different than previous years with new activities and a larger variety of events and vendors.

5K Race and Fun Run/Walk

The day will get underway with the newest addition to Spirit Day - a 1K Fun Run/Walk and a 5K race through Minersville that will be timed by Pretzel City Sports. All ages are welcome. - *Continued on Page 2*

State of the Borough

Progress Abounds!

I hope all have been safe, healthy, and enjoying the warmer weather, cookouts, and outdoor activities this summer.

Following is a brief summary of actions and project status since my last Borough update in the May issue of the *Miners' Journal*. Additionally, I am including a brief outline of upcoming projects.



Bobby Mahalchick
Borough Manager

Spring & summer updates

- This year's street maintenance program included the milling and paving of the 200 block of North Street, 200 block of N. Fifth Street, and a section of Berger Street (also known as Stiney Groff Hill).

Street work had been postponed for several years, - *Continued on Page 4*

HALLOWEEN EVENTS

HALLOWEEN PARADE - Come out for a hauntingly good time and watch a parade of costumed characters at the annual Halloween Parade on Sat., October 27 at 6:30 p.m. This year's parade should be the biggest ever. There will be plenty of shrieks and thrills along with treats for the children. Want to have more fun? Dress up in your most elaborate costume and join in the parade!

RAIN DATE SUNDAY, OCT. 28

TRICK OR TREAT - Wed., 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 THURSDAY, NOV. 1

HAUNTED HOUSE - Once again the Carbon Street Scream Team will offer shrieks of surprise and joy as "The Asylum" Haunted House opens its doors to all ages. This "out of your mind" experience will take place again in the old Globe Theater above Borough Hall, 2 E. Sunbury St., operating from 6 to 9 p.m. on Sat. and Sun., Oct. 27-28. See Page 6 for more information. This event will be held regardless of the weather.

On the inside . . .

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2018 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

2 East Sunbury Street
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 Hours: Mon.-Thurs., 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Fri., 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
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Mayor..... Leo Securda
 Chief of Police Michael Combs
 President of Council Jamie Kuehn
 Borough Manager..... Bobby Mahalchick
 Secretary Gloria Capik
 Treasurer Megan Paul
 Tax Receiver..... Juliann Kowalchick
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 Code Enforcement..... Kyle Crouse
 Health Officer..... Kyle Crouse
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BOROUGH OFFICE

Megan Paul, Office Manager
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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 for discussions and setting of an agenda takes place on the First Tuesday. The Business Meeting is then held on the Second Tuesday.

2018 OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Minersville Borough offices will be closed on the following days in 2018 in observance of the stated holidays - Labor Day, Sept. 3; Veterans Day (Observed), Nov. 12; Thanksgiving and day after, Nov. 22 and 23; Christmas, Dec. 24 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and 25; New Year's, Dec. 31 (half day, close at 11 a.m.), Jan. 1, 2019.

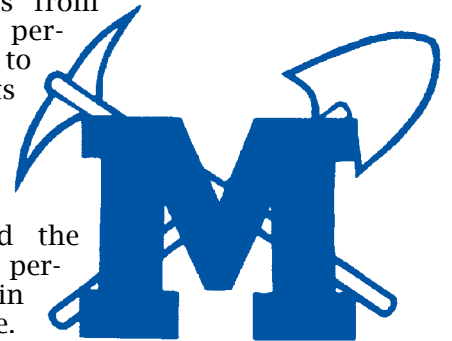
Spirit Day

- Continued from Page 1

The races will begin at 8:30 a.m. Registration will open shortly online at www.pretzelcitysports.com at a cost of \$25, including a commemorative t-shirt for all participants. Prizes will be awarded for the top winners. Entrants can sign up the day of the race. but will not be guaranteed a t-shirt on the day of the race.

Entertainment featured on 2 stages

As always, you won't want to miss our entertainment. The gymnasts from Marybeth's will be performing in addition to dancers from Artists in Motion and the Broesler School of Irish Dancers on the center stage. Leilani, the Sensations, and the Boys Upstairs will be performing on stage in front of the High Rise. A few open entertainment time slots remain. Performers out there, please see the contact information below.



Beer garden also "on tap"

A "beer garden" will be added to the outdoor festivities this year with only those 21 years of age and older admitted. Vendors lining both sides of North Street will also be expanding - this year with food trucks, more craft vendors, games, entertainment, a variety of food vendors, and much more.

There is still time to reserve an area as a vendor for individuals or groups. The cost is only \$10 per spot. Interested? Contact Ashley at (570) 516-8701 (call or text) or email at minersvillespiritday@yahoo.com.

Let's show our Minersville pride by taking part in this year's festivities and make this one of the biggest events in the county! We sincerely hope this year's event will continue, as in years past, to be a time for the residents of Minersville and surrounding communities to join together for a day of fun, excitement and showing support for the organizations involved.

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¹Direct Deposit must be payroll, pension, or other monthly income from a third party equal to a minimum of \$250.00 to be eligible. ²Debit Card transactions must be posted and clear account within the first 60 days to qualify. Bank reserves the right to disqualify offer if accounts are not opened in good faith or not in good standing at time bonus is paid. Bonus will be paid within 61 to 75 days of account opening and is subject to tax reporting. Offer subject to withdrawal or change at any time. Rewards are subject to IRS Tax Reporting and will be issued a 1099-INT form. See Bank representative for further details.



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570.797.3121

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308 N. Claude A. Lord Blvd.
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Tower City:
920 E. Wiconisco Ave.
717.647.0228

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From the Desk of the Borough Manager

- Continued from Page 1

but returned two years ago with milling and paving sections of Pine Hill, Heffner, Westwood, Pine, Schuylkill, North, Fifth, and Berger Streets.

A priority list of areas most critical will be created for next year's street maintenance program.

- The Street Department continues to fill and repair potholes with asphalt as time allows.
- The PennDOT "Green Light Go Grant" project, replacing all traffic signals on Sunbury Street and making pedestrian crosswalk improvements, is on track for an early 2019 start. Plan approval from PennDOT was required and construction bids for the contract award are yet to be done. The project is required to be completed by June 2019.
- The Borough is in the process of revising the plans and costs for the Community Park at the former American Legion location. The cost of the initial design is more than what was awarded through the Keystone Communities Grant. We're working with the planner to get the project within the grant budget.
- An application for a Multimodal Transportation Grant to do streetscape improvements on Sunbury St. is still under review by the state. If the grant is awarded, the plan is for new sidewalks where needed, trees, and downtown lighting on the scale of Centre Street in Pottsville. The project would

start at Sunbury St. and Delaware Ave. and end at Sunbury and Third Street.

This particular grant does not require any local match of funds. That's great, but makes it attractive to many other communities competing for the same grant funds.

- Minersville's grant application for a Greenways, Trails, and Rails Recreation Grant is also still under review with no status notification yet. This project targets upgrades at the Recreation Complex.
- The Borough is also awaiting word on the status of a DEP Recycling Grant application to replace our current Recycling Truck and to install a card-activated security gate at the Recycling/Compost site located on N. Delaware Ave. Up to \$350,000 may be available with a required 10% local match (i.e. should the grant award be \$160,000, our required contribution would be \$16,000).
- Hired a planning consultant to fast-track identifying blighted properties in the Borough whether they can be rehabbed or need to be demolished. The grant was funded at 70% rather than 50%, due to the Borough's participation in the Early Intervention Program.

Minersville became the first non-Act 47 (financially distressed) community in the state to receive the Blight Technical Assistance Grant. The grant is funded through the Department of Community

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Borough Manager

& Economic Development (DCED) and will be conducted by the PA Housing Alliance.

- Milling and paving the entire length of Sunbury Street and replacing all handicap curb/ramps is planned next summer as a PennDOT Transportation Improvement Program (TIP).

Fight against blight

- The aggressive fight against blight has not let up. The blighted properties of 140-142-144 Sunbury Street have been demolished with Schuylkill County funding. The Borough has submitted a request to the Schuylkill Land Bank board to consider the acquisition and demolition of blighted properties at 228 North St. and 218 N. Third St. The Land Bank purchased the properties and it will be demolishing them.

Code Enforcement aggressively pursues owners of blighted properties. Even though you may not physically see the desired results of a neighboring blighted property, rest assured the owners are being cited or summoned to a hearing before District Magistrate David Plachko. The Borough is required to follow legally-accepted enforcement procedures. It's not as easy as just condemning properties, demolishing properties, or removing people.

Great things are happening! Take an active role in making OUR hometown something we can all be proud of.

– Bobby Mahalchick, Borough Manager

Newsletter Particulars

"Miners' Journal" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Minersville distributed to 2,900 households within the borough.

Newsletter articles are compiled by Councilman Jamie Kuehn. This newsletter is designed and printed by South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing 960 E. Main St. • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: printing@southschuylkill.net

www.SouthSchuylkillPrinting.com

Publication date for the next three issues are:
October 26, 2018, February 7, and May 3, 2019

News Submittals

Nonprofit and community organizations within the borough are invited to submit news items for consideration. Written submittals must be received at the borough office three weeks prior to the publication date. Simply E-mail info to minersnewsletter@hotmail.com or call 570-544-2149.

Advertising

Businesses wishing to reach every household in the Borough of Minersville are invited to advertise in future issues. Contact South Schuylkill Printing & Publishing for more information. Call Barb @ 570-385-3120. All advertisements must be received at least three weeks prior to the publication dates. Ad content is subject to approval and acceptance by the Borough of Minersville.

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Minersville Knows How to Celebrate Halloween

Screams, Shrieks and Fun to Abound Oct. 27-28 & 31

Borough officials have scheduled 2018 Halloween activities — featuring the annual Halloween Parade, Haunted House, and Trick-or-Treat — that proved successful last year based on community involvement.

Holiday events will kick-off Saturday, Oct. 27 with the Halloween Parade stepping off at 6:30 p.m. In the event of rain, the parade could be rescheduled to Sunday, Oct. 28.

Later Saturday evening the Carbon Street Scream Team, in cooperation with the Recreation Committee, begins two nights of “The Asylum.” Hours for this year’s community Haunted House slated both Saturday and Sunday will frighteningly go on from 6 to 9 p.m. Screams for this event will go on both nights, rain or shine. “The Asylum” is housed in the former Globe Hall (above the Minersville Borough Office) at 2 E. Sunbury St.

Wednesday, Oct. 31 will be the borough’s community-wide Trick-or-Treat night from 6 to 8 p.m. In the event of rain, this could be postponed to Thursday, Nov. 1.

“Last year we utilized three separate dates for the Haunted House, the Parade, and Trick-or-Treat night,” explained Borough Council President Jamie Kuehn. “All three events were very well attended ... in spite of inclement weather. Because of that we thought we’d

utilize a similar schedule this year. We hope citizens will come out again this year to enjoy themselves and show support for these types of events.”

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 **OTHER**
of marchers _____ Describe _____

Mail completed form to:

Minersville Borough
2 E Sunbury St.
Minersville, PA 17954

OR – Call to register: 570-544-2149

Parade is Saturday, Oct. 27

Supported by area businesses, Minersville’s Halloween Parade is organized by the Recreation Board and Miners Fire Rescue. Parade entrants will form at 6 p.m. at the Minersville Area Football Stadium parking lot. The parade will begin promptly at 6:30 traveling on North Fourth Street, turning left on North St. then right onto Front St., right onto Sunbury St., right on North Fifth St., and right again onto North St., ending in the vicinity of the Miners Fire Rescue building.

Marching groups, floats, bands, and individual marchers are asked to register in advance. Prizes will be awarded for Best Float and Best Individual in first, second, and third places plus a Special Judge’s Choice Award to either a float or individual.

All entrants should complete and mail, in advance, the Entry Form printed above or one available from the Borough Office.

Haunted House reserved tickets

Back by popular demand, you can reserve your time to experience this year’s visit to “The




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Minersville Knows How to Celebrate Halloween

Asylum” Haunted House by purchasing reserved tickets in advance. The option, first introduced last year, proved to be desirable and convenient for patrons for a minimal cost.

“Visitors seemed to really enjoy the convenience of the timed ticket,” Kuehn said. “For a \$2 upgrade you could avoid waiting in line. We’re trying to make the experience as enjoyable as possible while, at the same time, generate revenue for other recreational events.”

Starting about October 1, for a \$6 fee, those interested can call or visit the Borough Office to reserve a timed-ticket

sold in limited quantities every 15 minute interval starting at 6 p.m., and available both nights. General admission tickets will be available at the door on each night of the event for a \$4 fee.

Trick-or-Treat set Oct. 31

Youngsters dressed as ghosts, goblins, witches, princesses, and superheroes will take to the streets on Halloween night, Wednesday, 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.

Updated and finalized information should be available in the next community newsletter scheduled for delivery in late October.

R&J TOURS – 2018 HAPPENINGS

August 18 – Wildwood, NJ	\$52
August 23 – Out of his mind.....	\$82
September 7 – Green Dragon & Kitchen Kettle.....	\$29
September 8 – US Holocaust Museum.....	\$46
September 9 – Gettysburg Wine & Music.....	\$44
September 11 – Mercy Me @ York Fair.....	\$57
September 11 – The Home Game.....	\$89
September 12 – Anchors Away.....	\$99
September 15 – Feast of San Gennaro.....	\$42
September 15 – Gourmet Food Shopping NYC.....	\$43
September 18 – Run for your wife.....	\$87
September 19 – Doo-Wop Sock Hop.....	\$82
CALL – Phillies.....	CALL
CALL – NYC Free Day.....	\$42
CALL – Penn State Games.....	CALL

OVERNIGHTS

CALL – Dover.....	\$125 DBL Occ.
September 9-13 – Ocean City, Md.....	\$437 DBL Occ.
September 17-21 – Discover the 1000 Islands	\$835 DBL Occ.
September 23-25 – An American Journey	\$243 DBL Occ.

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Borough Services Update . . . and Events

Sign honors Little League Softball

A new sign erected along the Pottsville Maroons Highway in June honors the Minersville Little League Softball program and greets visitors and residents as they enter Minersville Borough.



Jerry Sitkus, a former Little League Softball coach for 25 years, conceived of the sign, having wondered for many years why there was not a tribute to recognize the program's achievements. The girls' All-Star teams through the years garnered great respect for Minersville as a softball powerhouse at state and national championship tournaments.

Other great Minersville teams and those of surrounding communities have similar sign and banner

recognition. Jerry took the initiative in July 2017 to get a sign put on the highway. Since the 13-15 year-olds softball program disbanded in the year 2000, many people Jerry talked to last summer either did not know the success of those teams or stated that people are beginning to forget about what those teams accomplished.

Currently, there is a sign at the Minersville Little League Softball field displaying the 11-12 year-old teams that were State Champions, but there was none to recognize the 13-15 year-old State Champions. The new sign on the highway honors both squads and, in addition to recognizing the state championships won, it also denoted the years the teams won regional championships and played in the Little League Softball World Series.

Jerry worked on an appropriate design and location. Minersville Borough Council gave its approval and work quickly began.

Players and families associated with the Little League Softball program through the years owe Jerry a debt of gratitude for his thoughtfulness, generosity and persistence. The sign stands as a reminder of the success earned by the Minersville Little League Softball program.

Jones Foundation Golf Tourney

There's still time to register for the 4th annual Captain Jason Jones Memorial Golf Tournament & Dinner. This event has activities for golfers, spouses and children featuring an ice cream social for kids from noon to 2:30 p.m. with dinner and live music from 6 to 9 p.m. It all takes place Saturday, Sept. 8 at the Schuylkill Country Club, Rt. 443 just west of Orwigsburg.

Additional information can be found at www.captainjasonjones.com/events. Online registration can be made at birdeasepro.com/captainjasonjones.

Gather at the Garden

The Schuylkill County Master Gardeners, an offshoot of the Penn State Extension Office, welcomes all to their 2nd annual "Garden Gathering" to be



held Saturday, Aug. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will all take place at the group's trial garden located at the parking lot southeast corner of the First United Church of Christ, 110 Rt. 61, just south of Schuylkill Haven near the entrance to Penn State Schuylkill.



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Borough Services Update . . . and Events

Admission and parking is free. Plants and produce grown by the Master Gardeners, as well as cut flower arrangements, baked goods, food, and refreshments will be displayed and available for purchase. Artisans, food and items from It's Just Barbeque, Twisted Sisters Ice Cream, Honey for Heroes, and Hope Hill Lavender Farm will have stands while music is also provided.

Got a question on gardening?

Ask a Master Gardener ?

Stumped by a garden issue? Help is just a phone call away ... call the PSU Extension Office of the Schuylkill Master Gardeners on the "Hort Line" at 570-622-4225, ext. 23.

Questions on trees, shrubs, flowers, lawn and much more can be answered by local experts between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesday now to October. Messages can be left at other times.

St. Michael the Archangel News

Apple dumplings from the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be available for pickup on Wednesday, Oct. 10 at the Parish Center via the back door on Lewis Street. Orders can be made August 22 through September 26 by calling 570-544-4741 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. This fundraiser benefits the needy locally.

CCD (Confraternity of Christian Doctrine) will be held beginning Tuesday, Sept. 4 for children in grades 4-K to eighth grade. Children should assemble in the Parish Center at 5:45 p.m. with dismissal at 7:15.

The Food Pantry Ministry, coordinated by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul members, distributes non-perishable food items to the needy of the greater Minersville area on the third Wednesday of each month, 10 a.m. to 11 a.m., at the Parish Center via the back door off Lewis Street.

2017 Water Quality Report available

Municipalities providing drinking water to their residents are required to monitor water quality for contaminants in accordance to federal and state laws. Each year they are required to issue an annual report detailing their monitoring results.

Reports for each year from 2014 through 2017 are available for review on the Borough website: minersvilleonline.com under the "Water Authority" tab. The Minersville Municipal Water Authority is proud to report "no violations for the 2017 calendar year."



You can help control mosquitoes

Kyle Shutt of the Schuylkill Conservation District offers the following steps every one of us can take to help control mosquitoes.

Don't let water go stagnant. Mosquitoes need stagnant, still water to lay eggs and for the young to successfully hatch and mature. Dump it out; pick up your litter; and pay attention to your water features. Drain or throw out tires. De-clutter your property and get rid of junk.

Housing Rehabilitation Program

The Minersville Borough Housing Rehabilitation Program is designed to encourage low/moderate income, owner-occupants to restore their homes to a decent, safe and sanitary condition. Eligible home-

- Continued on Page 10



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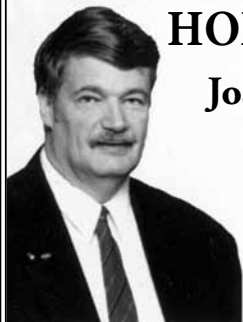
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Borough Services Update . . . and Events


- Continued from Page 9

owners will receive financial assistance to help restore their homes in conformity with established minimum housing rehabilitation standards.

FAMILY SIZE	GROSS INCOME LIMITS
1 person	\$33,900
2 people	\$38,750
3 people	\$43,600
4 people	\$48,400
5 people	\$52,300
6 people	\$56,150
7 people	\$60,050
8 people	\$63,900

That assistance will be in the form of a conditional grant/non-interest bearing loan that would be forgiven at a rate of 20% per annum over a period of five years.

Should ownership of the property change hands or the property owner change his/her principal residence during this five-year period, the unforgiven balance of the loan must be repaid to the Borough. This provision is made to prevent speculative profit from the program.



Your municipal **Infrastructure** is very important to us; we rely on it too.

We understand municipal systems and the people who operate them non-stop to serve their communities. We are part of many of those communities, relying on them.

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Homeowners can obtain a “Housing Rehabilitation Application” at the Minersville Borough building. Complete and return the application in order to be placed on the housing rehabilitation list.

The charted income limits in this section represent income by family size for the area as reported by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD) department as of June 1, 2018. The Borough Council will revise these limits whenever HUD adjusts the Section 8 low/moderate income for Schuylkill County.

Annual income is the gross amount of money that all adult household members are expected to bring in during the coming 12 months in accordance to “Annual Income Directive Number 5.609”.

Additional requirements are:

- The unit to be rehabilitated must be owned and occupied by the applicant.
- Real estate taxes as well as other municipal taxes and fees on the property to be rehabilitated must be paid up-to-date.
- The owner shall provide evidence of property insurance.

The program will follow HUD regulations 24 CFR 570.605 and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973.

Nondiscrimination policy

Minersville Borough does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs or activities.

The acting chairman of the Personnel Committee has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in the HUD regulations implementing section 504 (24 CFR Part 8, dated June 2, 1988).

For additional information contact the Borough Office: Minersville Borough; 2 East Sunbury Street; Minersville, PA 17951; 570-544-2149.

Attention contractors

Minersville Borough maintains a list of contractors for this Housing Rehabilitation Program funded with Community Development Block Grant and HUD HOME Investment Partnership program funding. Interested contractors can obtain eligibility requirements and an application by contacting the Borough’s Grant Consultant at 570-875-7320.



Minority and woman-owned businesses will be afforded full opportunity to bid on contract work. Applicants will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, handicap or disability, ancestry, national origin, age, sex, or familial status.

Recreation Complex

Enjoy the Minersville Recreation Complex this summer and fall. But, please adhere to the few rules and regulations that assure for the safety and enjoyment of all — residents and visitors alike.

The Recreation Complex is closed from dusk

Borough Services Update . . . and Events



to dawn. Bicycling, skates and pets are prohibited from the park. Smoking is also prohibited.

With the large number of people visiting the Recreation

Complex, parking at times may be at a premium. Please be considerate of other people and park your vehicle within the lines of the designated parking spaces. Parking in the driving lanes of the parking lot is prohibited. Due to continuous problems on the lot, offending vehicles will be ticketed or may be towed. There is an additional parking area located on the road leading to the Lions Pavilion.

Be pet responsible!

Borough Ordinance 324 requires dog owners to keep the dog confined to their own property. When taking the dog for a walk, the animal must be on a leash and the person walking the dog is responsible to clean up any fecal matter discharged by the dog. On the pet owner's property, fecal matter must be removed within twenty-four hours to prevent the accumulation from becoming a danger to public health.

All dogs are required to be licensed and vaccinated. Dogs are prohibited in the South 4th Street Recreation Complex.

Upcoming holiday closings

Minersville Borough offices and services will be closed on Monday, Sept. 3 in observance of Labor Day and on Monday, Oct. 8 for Columbus Day.

Vacation house checks

Residents on vacation or away from their residence for an extended period of time can request the Minersville Police Department to randomly check the security of their home.

Officers will check the exterior of the dwelling for suspicious activity as time permits. House check forms may be obtained at the police station or accessed on the Borough website.

The form must be completed and signed by the homeowner. House check information will not be taken over the telephone for security reasons. When requesting this service, the resident should understand this is a free service provided as time permits based upon call volume. There is no special duty upon the Borough when providing this service and there is no guarantee against loss, theft, or damage to the premises.

Fall cleanup accepts large and small

The Schuylkill County Office of Solid Waste & Recycling will hold its annual Fall Cleanup & Recycling Event in September with the cooperation of numerous municipalities — including a special collection at Minersville Borough.

Unwanted tires, appliances, scrap metal and other bulky items may be taken to any of the designated collection sites for proper disposal. Minersville's collection will be set up at the borough's N. Delaware Avenue compost area Monday, Sept. 17 through Saturday, Sept. 22. Hours of acceptance are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday.

Again for a third year, Schuylkill County will not collect computers and other electronic devices during this Fall Cleanup event.

Santa is coming to Minersville



The Minersville Recreation Board will sponsor a Christmas parade on Sunday, Nov. 25, featuring the arrival of Santa Claus to welcome the holiday season. Santa's reindeer will be resting for their Christmas Eve trip, but Santa will have other special transportation for the event.

A 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 7 p.m. The first 100 children will receive a special present from Santa. The festivities will be held rain, snow or shine.



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570-366-8736 or check us out on Facebook
Deborah@TheArtsBarn.com

Minersville Little League Softball ... by Jerry Sitkus

Masterful Play, Great Pitching Sends 1978 Team to World Series

Following is Part 3 in a series that began in the February 2018 issue of *Miners' Journal* telling the history of the Minersville softball dynasty. Part 3 covers the 1978 season.

With the past success of the All-Star teams in two age groups - five State Championships and a World Series appearance - the Minersville Little League was selected to be the host of the Senior Division (13-15 yr) State Softball Tournament in 1978.

The League began preparing six months prior in order to house four teams, since it wasn't definite the Minersville entry would be one of the teams until play began in July. Players would be grouped by twos, staying with a chosen family for the duration of the tournament. Coaches would stay in a hotel provided by the host league. The Minersville girls were treated very well over the last few years as they travelled to tournaments, so the league had no problem getting families willing to house two players each.

The Miners had a number of players returning on the All-Star team, along with some younger players that moved up from the Junior Division. Once again the Miners were the only team in District 24 and had to wait for the other districts to play until the first sectional game.

The Miners played that first game at home against Devon-Strafford. Though tournament-tested the last

couple of years, the Miners were a little nervous entering that first game. Devon-Strafford took an early 3-0 lead in the 2nd inning, but the Miners battled back to eke-out a 4-3 win.

The next game was held in Hellertown for the Section 4 title and a trip to the State Tournament. The Miners were ready and confident in this game as the bats came alive and the Miners won easily by a 16-1 score.

Next stop for Minersville was the State Tournament! Besides Minersville, Shippensburg, Loyalsock, and Albion-Springfield were in the double-elimination tournament.

The Miners were matched with Shippensburg ... a perennial challenger to Minersville's superiority. The Miners opened the games with a 10-0 victory behind the no-hit pitching of Lynn Connelly. Later the same day, the Miners' bats were still hot, as they pounded out 30 runs to beat Albion-Springfield and advance to the final.

Shippensburg came back through the losers' bracket to have the opportunity to play the Miners again, but Shippensburg would need to beat the Miners twice to take the crown. The Miners were excited and wanted to win the title at home before a huge crowd. Once again the Miners won by a score of 12-0 ... this time behind the one-hit pitching of Lynn Connelly. The Miners were State Champions for the 4th straight year.

Note: The 3 shutouts, 30 runs scored in one game, and 52 total runs is still most likely a State Tournament record in Little League Softball.

The Miners were now moving on to the East Regional Tournament in Wayne, New Jersey. Other champions participating in the tournament were East Northport, NY; Elkton, MD (Mid-Atlantic champion); and Seymour, CT (New England Champion).

The Miners began play against East Northport highlighted by good defense, winning 4-0. Seymour was next with a scoreless pitching duel going to the top of the 7th inning. The Miners plated two runs to take the lead; but Seymour came back in the bottom of the 7th to capture a 3-2 victory.

The Miners were still alive but in the losers' bracket. They would need to beat Seymour twice in the same day if they wanted to advance to the World Series. Behind the gutsy pitching, hitting and hustling of Carolyn Harley, the Miners won a close game in 8 innings by a score of 3-2 to force a deciding game.

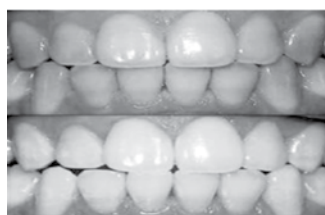
The Miners were ready and confident; but needed to beat Seymour once again. This time Cindy Connelly, who had not pitched in tournament play was on the mound. Cindy was a very calm and determined player, and the team was ready to play good defense behind her. The Miners had two inning-killing double plays. Twice, centerfielder Lori Sninski cut down Seymour runners at home plate with excellent throws to shortstop Linda Pizzico who relayed strikes to catcher Cheryl Shulkusky. Cindy Connelly pitched an excellent game, scattering five hits in the Miners'

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Minersville Little League Softball ... by Jerry Sitkus



1978 SENIOR DIVISION SOFTBALL TEAM (second place winner in the World Series) - Front from left, Shelly Kachmar, Carolyn Harley, Lori Sninski, and Paula Hashin; second row, Rose Fesnock, Lori Trezise, Lori Pisco, Stacy Brennan, Lisa Walinsky, and Kathy Depsky; back row, coach Jerry Sitkus, Lynn Connelly, Cindy Connelly, Cheryl Shulkusky, Linda Pizzico, and coach Francis Sninski.

Carolyn Harley, who threw a two-hitter against Wellswood in the opening game, would be on the mound for the final. Unfortunately for the Miners, Wellswood did better this time, as they collected 11 hits and scored 8 runs (4 earned) to beat the Miners 8-2 for the World Series Title. It was a very tough loss for the Minersville team, but finishing second best in the nation was surely something of which to be proud.

The team returned home to a gala town-wide parade, which included some of the local high school marching bands, followed by ceremonies at the Minersville Area High School Stadium filled with more than 1,000 people. A buffet meal at the Minersville Legion Post 544 topped off the list of activities.

The entire town was decorated to show support for the girls, having the rare opportunity come their way twice. This was the second time in three years the Miners played in the World Series. The team was honored a number of times over the next several months by local organizations.

Pennsylvania softball was well presented that week. The Junior Division World Series title was won that same week in Baxter Springs, KS by the team from Shippensburg.


3-0 shutout win. The Miners celebrated, advancing to the World Series to be held in Baxter Springs, Kansas!

Besides Minersville (10-1), the other teams in the World Series were two-time defending World Series Champion Wellswood of Tampa, Florida (13-2); Sunny Slope, CA (9-2); and Clay, of Portsmouth, Ohio (10-0).

By the time teams reach the national tournament, they have established themselves in all phases of the game — hitting, pitching, base running, and team defense. Losses come as a breakdown in one of these areas. The Miners opening game was against a very good Sunny Slope team that had good pitching and defense and could score runs. The Miners fell behind early, 2-0; but Sunny Slope's defense cracked under tournament pressure, committing five combined errors in the fourth and fifth innings that gave Minersville a 4-2 lead. The Miners scored two more in the sixth to get the win, 6-2.

The next game for the Miners would be against Wellswood. The Miners scored five runs in the fourth inning and went on to beat Wellswood, 7-3, behind the two-hit pitching of Carolyn Harley. The Miners would now wait to play the winner of Sunny Slope and Wellswood for the World Series Title.

Wellswood defeated Sunny Slope; but, would need to beat the Miners twice in the same day if they wanted to capture their third straight championship. The Miners were in good shape with their pitching rotation and would have Lynn Connelly on the mound for the first game. The Miners took a 2-0 lead after two innings, but Wellswood came back to win a close game 3-2.



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Trash & Recycling - Here's What to Know!

Trash collection

Limited to a maximum of five 30-gallon bags of household garbage, each weighing less than 40 pounds; collection is every Tuesday throughout the Borough. Your pick-up should be placed curbside after 6 p.m. and no later than midnight on Monday evening.

Containers must be secured and bags properly tied. Containers must be removed from the sidewalk area after sanitation collection is completed.

One large item - no white goods (washer, refrigerator, stove, sink) or Freon-bearing appliances are allowed - will be collected weekly when placed with your trash. Separate arrangements can be made for the disposal of white goods ... call County Waste at 570-874-3047 for pricing and pick-up.

Recycling collection

Unbroken green, brown, and clear glass containers; tin and aluminum cans; #1 through #7 plastics; newspapers, magazines, and clean paper products (bundled separately, and cardboard, flattened and bundled) are collected curbside twice per month.



These materials must be placed in a designated recycling container. Do not place in plastic bags Any loose paper, cardboard, or other recyclables will not be picked up.

Properties north of Sunbury Street have recycling collection on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Properties south of Sunbury Street have curbside collection on the second and fourth Wednesday. There is no collection when a fifth Wednesday occurs

during a month. The North Delaware Avenue compost site is available for drop-off recycling in designated collection bins.

Recyclable materials should not be placed in the normal trash. Violators are subject to fines and prosecution per Borough ordinance.

Prohibited items

Refuse such as tires, batteries, and electronics (televisions, computers and peripherals, DVD players, etc.), as well as construction, demolition, or renovation debris are prohibited from trash and normal recycling collection.

The property owner, tenant, or contractor is responsible for arranging separate pick-up, drop-off, and proper disposal of these items.

Disposal of yard waste

The Borough's compost site is located at the northern end of North Delaware Avenue for depositing of yard waste, including grass clippings, leaves, garden vegetation waste, and tree trimmings. If compost items are collected in a plastic bag, the contents should be emptied at the compost site and the bag taken home with the resident.

The compost site, available to Borough residents only, is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Ashes and salt are stored at the location, but are not for the public to take. Violators will be prosecuted.

All other materials other than approved/separated recyclable materials and yard waste are prohibited. Anyone caught dumping other refuse, vandalizing, trespassing and/or stealing within the North Delaware Avenue Complex at any time will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. Constant video surveillance at the compost/recycling site feeds directly into the police station.

Only recyclable materials are permitted in the bins. Yard waste may be placed on the compost pile. No electronics, garbage or construction material is permitted. Fines of up to \$1,000 may be imposed for violations.

	North Side	South Side
August	1 & 15	8 & 22
September	5 & 19	12 & 26
October	3 & 17	10 & 24
November	7 & 21	14 & 28
December	5 & 19	12 & 26

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Minersville Public Library ... More than Books!

The Minersville Public Library, 220 South 4th Street, is a tremendous resource for area residents. In addition to its depository of books including large print editions, periodicals, e-books and audio books, movies on VHS and DVD, your library provides public computer access, WiFi internet connection for your own devices, plus photocopy and fax services.

Parents and grandparents caring for children will appreciate many of the special programs offered to cultivate a young person's appetite for reading and learning, including a regular Story Time and the library's collection of educational toys and puzzles. Thanks to a preschool collection grant, the library acquired a set of literacy kits available for checkout for work/enjoyment at home. Each kit has items and/or puppets pertaining to the story and an activity sheet to reinforce the story.

The Minersville Public Library is now available from your home computer. Services include searching book availability, reserving books and renewing a book already borrowed. Your library is a member of the Pennsylvania Power Library Network providing access to thousands of full text periodical articles, newspapers, a major encyclopedia, photographs, charts, maps and reference materials for people of all ages.

Spark PA can be accessed from your home computer through the Minersville Public Library's website www.minersvillelibrary.org, allowing you to remote-



ly reserve a book, check book availability, and renew your borrowed book. All you need is your library card number.

Regular hours at the library are Tuesday and Thursday from noon to 7 p.m., Wednesday and Friday from noon to 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library is closed on Sunday and Monday each week.

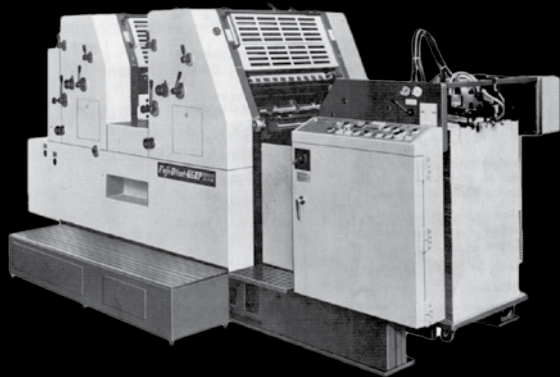
While the ability to borrow books and have access to other resources are free services to all Schuylkill County residents at the Minersville Public Library, such learning doesn't come free of cost. The library conducts an annual fund drive campaign in the fall. When the appeal arrives in the mail, please consider supporting the library this one time of year to the greatest extent possible.

For additional information, contact the library at 570-544-5196 or email mpl@minersvillelibrary.org.



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Trash & Recycling – Here’s What to Know!



MINERSVILLE RECYCLES!



Curbside Recycling Guidelines



Newspapers, brochures & inserts (bundled)

Cardboard boxes (flattened & bundled)


Pizza/donut boxes (flattened & bundled)

Phone books (bundled)

Magazines (bundled)

Paper products MUST be bundled or in a manageable sized box.

If your paper products are not bundled, they cannot be picked up.



Aluminum cans

Glass bottles & jars

Plastic containers # 1-7

Please rinse all containers and be sure they are free of any food.

If your recycling bin contains anything other than these items, it cannot be picked up.

Items not accepted

- Styrofoam
- Electronic waste (batteries, cell phones, etc.)
- Hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, cleaners)
- Any oil (including used motor oil bottles)
- Aerosol & Paint Cans
- Yard Waste
- Light Bulbs
- Medical Waste
- Windows
- Toys
- Appliances
- Furniture
- Trash

If you would like to drop off your recycling, the site is located at end of N. Delaware Ave.