



MINERS' JOURNAL

Official Publication



Borough of Minersville

www.minersvilleonline.com

Vol. XII, No. 4 - Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF MINERSVILLE, PA

November 2019

Fall 2020 Completion • 30 Housing Units for Seniors

Miners Lofts – Transforming Blight to Housing Jewel

A September groundbreaking marked the start of construction transforming a long-shuttered garment manufacturing facility at Lewis and Jones streets into Miners Lofts, a senior citizen housing site.

Demolition is taking place throughout the entire building, removing remnants of the building's manufacturing past. Rough-in work for utilities throughout the building has started, as well as restoration of the exterior facade to give the building the bright look that it once had years ago. New windows will give the building a modern touch, yet keeping the look that Minersville has known for years.



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS - Miners Lofts developers Bud Quandel and Craig Shields are joined by State, County, and Borough officials to "break ground" in September.

through fifth floors. A community/gathering area will be located on each of the residential floors.

The interior work will be extensive, and in some cases incorporate an industrial look with high spacious ceilings. Each residential unit will feature a laundry area, fully equipped kitchen, and a spacious living/family room.

Renovation of this landmark structure has generated great excitement throughout the community. The building should be ready for occupancy by this time next year.

- Continued on Page 2

TAKE A VIRTUAL TOUR - Visionary renderings - inside and out - of Miners Lofts were assembled into a YouTube video tour of how the completed project may look. See it online at www.youtube.com/watch?v=11xrWPulyK0.

Interior construction on all floors of the building will take place through the fall and into the winter. This includes a second floor fit-out for LIFE Geisinger Health System and bedroom units on the third

SUPPORT YOUR LIBRARY
 The Minersville Public Library needs your help to maintain its services to the community. *See page 7.*

SANTA PARADE
Sunday, Dec. 1
 Parade - 5:30 p.m.
 Visit Santa - 6 to 7 p.m.



On the inside . . .

- Town Projects "On The Move" Pg. 4
- Help Library Services Continue .. Pg. 7
- Borough Services and Events Pg. 8
- Compost Site Changes Coming .. Pg. 13
- Dozen Scams to be Aware of Pg. 14

2019 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.minersvilleonline.com

OFFICIALS

Mayor..... Kerry Kerschner
Chief of Police Michael Combs
President of Council Jamie Kuehn
Borough Manager..... Bobby Mahalchick
Secretary Gloria Capik
Treasurer Megan Paul
Tax Receiver..... Juliann Kowalchick
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

Jennifer Beach • Stephen Darosh • Jamie S. Kuehn
M. Ian Mahal • Katielynn Milbrandt
Robert Umbenhen • Paul Vuksta

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Michael Combs, Chief • Craig Barket
Jeffrey Bowers • Harry Brown • Richard Clink
Gerard Daley, Jr. • Kyle Crouse • Esmerlyn Francisco
William Kattner • Patrick McDonald
Ryan Murphy • Jeremy Sborz • Cody Searfoss
Eric Sterner • Timothy Walsh
Leigh Ann Cielinski, Secretary

STREET DEPARTMENT

Edwin Houser, Street Supervisor • Martin Brophy
Matthew Leiby • Dave Motuk

SEWER DEPARTMENT

Raymond Sukeena, Supervisor
Joseph Carvajal

WATER DEPARTMENT

Melanie Spittler, Manager / Plant Operator
Raymond Bosack
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 for discussions and setting of an agenda takes place on the First Tuesday. The Business Meeting is then held on the Second Tuesday.

2019 OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Minersville Borough offices will be closed on the following remaining days of 2019 in observance of the stated holidays - Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving and day after, Nov. 28 and 29; Christmas eve and day, Dec. 24 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Dec. 25; New Year's eve and day, Dec. 31 (half day, close at 11 a.m.), and Jan. 1, 2020.

Miners Lofts

- Continued from Page 1

Project background

Many old coal towns in northeastern Pennsylvania are burdened with abandoned manufacturing facilities that have laid dormant for many years. Minersville is no exception, having once been a very robust anthracite community interlaced with dense single-family residences, churches, restaurants, small businesses and large commercial buildings.

The Miners Lofts project will take a long dormant and neglected five-story manufacturing plant on Minersville's east side and turn it into a vibrant living complex.

Through a visionary partnership created by Noble (Bud) Quandel, Jr. and Craig Shields, QSP Development, LLC was formed with the goal of providing much-needed, affordable housing for underserved seniors in Minersville.

Born and raised in Minersville, Bud Quandel has driven past this dormant building daily on the way to his Quandel Enterprises, Inc. office. Shields, a developer who was born and raised in nearby Pottsville, has completed several affordable housing projects over past years and, likewise, saw an opportunity to transform this building into productive use.



GROUND FLOOR tenant parking area demolition and rehabilitation gets started.

The top three floors at Miners Lofts will contain 30 one and two bedroom units for low-income seniors (over 62 years of age). Four will be handicap-accessible. The ground floor level will provide convenient parking spaces for the tenants.

The second floor will be occupied by LIFE Geisinger Health Services, specializing in helping seniors live independently. The offshoot of Geisinger Health System provides programs designed to maintain health, prevent nursing home placement, and improve quality of life.

This adaptive reuse effort has been made possible through a program sponsored by PHFA (Pennsylvania Housing and Financing Agency) that provides affordable housing tax credits to help underwrite the cost of the project. It is a prime example of a public-private partnership to create affordable housing.

The project is a key part of Schuylkill County's Fight the Blight Initiative. As one enters the gateway to Minersville, the building's prominent visibility is why Borough Manager Robert Mahalchick is calling the soon-to-be completed Miners Lofts the crown jewel of what is sure to become a revitalized Minersville community.

A trusted name in funeral service with age-old roots

Just a few reasons why we are proud to be Schuylkill Counties most frequently selected funeral home and crematory.

- Two Comfortable, Beautiful Funeral Homes to serve your needs
- Secure, Private, On-site Crematory
- Certified Celebrants On Staff
- Veterans Experts
- Grief Support and Aftercare Services



TRUST US, IN YOUR TIME OF NEED

Geschwindt-Stabingas and Ebling Stabingas Funeral Homes owns and operates the area's only private, on-site crematory. You can rest assured that your loved one will never leave our care, never change hands and the cremation process will never be outsourced.

A Few Reasons to Choose Ebling for Cremation

1. We personally perform the cremation ensuring your loved one never leaves our care.
2. We are a private crematory, doing our own cremations.
3. Crematory available for inspection anytime.
4. Embalming not required.
5. We explain your options and respect your wishes.
6. Peace of mind for you and your family.
7. Our staff has over 80 years of experience in the death care industry. Our wisdom leads to a better experience for the families we serve.
8. Heritage: We are proud to have served Schuylkill County families in their time of need for over 100 years.



GESCHWINDT - STABINGAS
Funeral Home Inc.

25 East Main St | Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
Gary H. Geschwindt, Supervisor
570-385-3381

EBLING - STABINGAS
Funeral Home

26 Chestnut St | Cressona, PA 17929
C. Elmer Ebling, Supervisor
570-385-3050

On-site & private cremation, not outsourced...the difference is peace of mind for your entire family.

From the Desk of the Borough Manager

State of the Borough – Minersville On The Move!

Greetings! I hope all are enjoying the fall weather and wish you a safe, healthy, and joyful holiday season.

I am excited to report that three of our four grant-related projects are nearing completion.

4th Street Playground

The much needed update and renovation of this playground got underway in late June. The play portion of the grant has been completed.



Bobby Mahalchick
Borough Manager

New age-suggested play complexes have been added – one for youngsters two to five years of age and another for those in the five-to-12 years age group. Both groupings are rated for handicap accessibility and a handicap-fitted swing has also been installed.

The equipment is state-of-the-art in that it allows our youngest residents to have an interactive gaming experience via a free downloaded cell phone application. It's amazing how much things have changed from when we were youngsters.

In addition to the new equipment, new mulch replaced the old and the remaining play equipment pieces were either renovated or removed.



Just off the walking path next to the playground, Borough resident, Michael Rizzardi, installed exercise stations in memory of his late grandfather Robert Rizzardi. The equipment includes a pull-up station and a sit-up application. Michael's project is part of his Eagle Scout award pursuit with the Boy Scouts.

Our other partner in the grant, Minersville Little League, has completed field drainage improvements. Expected to be complete by the time you read this, safety netting is being installed on the perimeter of the playing field. The netting will cover the area of the press box, extending down the third base line past the concession stand and down the first base line beyond the bleachers. Spectators will now have a layer of protection from line drive foul balls.

Funds for the project come from the \$90,000 joint Borough/Little League grant awarded in September 2018.

Minersville Veterans Memorial Park



The newly constructed Minersville Veterans Memorial Park is 95% complete and will be formally dedicated on this Veterans Day – November 11 at 11 a.m. As of press time, installation of two light poles and electricity connection were yet to be completed.

E.D.D.M.

EVERY DOOR DIRECT MAIL

DIRECT MAIL to EVERY Household and Business!

You choose the area. No addresses or labels needed. Pay only 18.7 cents each in postage.

GET YOUR BUSINESS NAME OUT THERE!

We Can Design It • Print It • Mail It



SOUTH SCHUYLKILL
PRINTING & PUBLISHING

960 E. Main Street • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: 570-385-3120 • Fax: 570-385-0725

E-mail: printing@southschuylkill.net

www.SouthSchuylkill.com

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB...

www.MinersvilleOnline.com

Borough Manager

In addition, two wrought iron gates were sent out to be sandblasted and repainted.

The park is located on the site of the former American Legion Post 544 at the corner of East Sunbury Street and South Delaware Avenue. A "punch list" walk-thru inspection by the park designer, Borough Engineer, and Borough Manager identified items that still needed to be completed prior to the dedication. Once these are satisfied, the Borough will sign off on completion.

The Veterans Memorial Park Committee is finalizing several options for friends and family to honor veteran loved ones, living or deceased. Details will be communicated to the public via the Borough website, Facebook page, and public media.

Recycling and compost site security




A card-activated security gate at the Recycling and Compost site located on N. Delaware Avenue has been installed. The added security will assist in identifying the items being brought in and those illegally dumping unaccepted items, restricting the site to Borough residents only, and monitoring the number of times a user has accessed the site.

Additional high definition cameras have also been installed. For a number of years, the Borough of Schuylkill Haven has had a similar system in place. More details will be forthcoming via the Borough website, Facebook page, and publicly circulated newspapers prior to the activation of the system.

A new Recycling Truck has been ordered. Delivery is not expected until December. The funding for these upgrades came from a state DEP grant received of \$160,000. The grant required a 10% Borough match of \$16,000.

- Continued on Page 6




Driven to SUCCEED

"If I can drive over an hour to watch my son play soccer, I can certainly do the same to give our daughter the best preparation for life."

Like many parents of children with disabilities, you'll go to the ends of the earth to advance your child's development. That is precisely why so many families drive the distance to *St. Joseph's Center for Special Learning*, a trusted regional resource known for ...

- ✓ The ONLY conductive education program in the Northeast U.S.
- ✓ A 60+ year track record of empowering children
- ✓ Highly individualized teaching that is both nurturing and results-oriented



ST. JOSEPH CENTER
for SPECIAL LEARNING

**OPEN ENROLLMENT ...
CALL (570) 622-4638 TODAY!**

stjosephctr.com

FRESHNESS, QUALITY, SERVICE

BG's Value Market

Open Daily 7 a.m.-9 p.m.

Rt. 443 Pine Grove – 570-345-0464
(Across from Pine Grove Schools)

Kings Village, Minersville – 570-544-2099

WIC & Access Card Welcome
Money Orders 79¢

**DOUBLE COUPONS EVERYDAY
SEE STORE FOR DETAILS**



From the Desk of the Borough Manager

- Continued from Page 5

Update on other projects

Signed contracts and documents from the Herr Signal Company, contractor for the Green Light Go grant-funded projects, have been received. Our consultant, McMahon Associates, Inc., is in the process of scheduling a required pre-construction meeting.

The projects were delayed while easements on three properties were gained and PennDOT's sign-off on the plans. The two projects will entail pedestrian improvements, an over speed warning system, and traffic signal coordination on Sunbury Street and its eight intersections.

An application has been submitted for a DCED Multimodal "No Match" Grant of \$736,000 to install new sidewalks, curbs, and decorative lighting on Sunbury Street, from Lewis to 3rd Street. Competition from other municipalities for these grant funds is fierce. Hopefully, we are fortunate to receive an award.

The Borough was recently informed we were not successful on a state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Roads Grant. Our application was to address the dirt road leading to the upper recreation complex parking lot and Lions' Pavilion. It was a highly competitive grant with a small pot of funding. The denial for this year will not preclude

us from continuing to aggressively pursue this and other grants annually.

Changing gears to handle winter

With winter weather just around the corner, the Borough requests all to prepare and to abide by our Quality of Life ordinances - especially related to the removal of snow and ice from your sidewalk.

By keeping your property free of ice and snow, you are providing a safe path for pedestrians. In addition, you enhance the quality of your property and are showing courtesy and respect to your direct neighbors and community. The ordinance will be strictly enforced.

The Borough continues to promote and witness significant improvements and redevelopment in our town. As a resident of this town we all love, you can make a difference as well. Whether it be a fresh coat of paint to the exterior of your home or cleaning around your property, every little bit does get noticed by those living, working, and traversing through our community.

It improves the quality of life for us all. Be an active part in making OUR hometown something in which we can all be proud. We can do it!

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!

- Bobby Mahalchick, Borough Manager

HB STEELE & SON

Providing Year Round Comfort

Energex
Quality You Can Trust
HARDWOOD PELLET FUEL

Lignetics
Environmentally Engineered Fuel and Fire
WOOD PELLET FUEL

Wood Pellets In Stock

CALL US AT 570-366-1275

Like us on Facebook **WWW.HBSTEEL.COM**

17 Municipal Road • PO Box 375 • Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • PA9761

Newsletter Particulars

"Miners' Journal" is a quarterly newsletter of the Borough of Minersville with 3,000 copies distributed to households within the borough and available at public outlets.

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.SouthSchuylkill.com

Publication dates for the next three issues are: February 7, May 1, and August 7, 2020

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.

Minersville Public Library Fundraising Appeal

Programs and Services Continue With Your Help

In existence for 85 years and nearly a quarter century at its current location, the Minersville Public Library serves residents of Minersville, Llewellyn, Branchdale, Forestville, Primrose, and Phoenix Park communities and all points between.

We hope you have experienced the many programs and services we offer firsthand! If not, please plan to visit and discover how this valuable community resource can serve you and those around you.

LIBRARY HOURS

SUNDAY Closed
 MONDAY Closed
 TUESDAY 12 noon-7 p.m.
 WEDNESDAY 12 noon-5 p.m.
 THURSDAY 12 noon-7 p.m.
 FRIDAY 12 noon-5 p.m.
 SATURDAY 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

visit and discover how this valuable community resource can serve you and those around you.

This is our annual Fund Drive appeal and we need your help! Our mission is to provide both educational and entertain-

ing materials to meet the needs of the community. Maintaining present operations while adding services and programming to meet evolving needs can happen only through the generosity and financial help from local individuals and businesses.

State funding to libraries across Pennsylvania has decreased by 33% over the years. Funding for the Minersville Public Library has not increased for the past five years and will receive only a modest increase this year.

Meanwhile our day-to-day operational costs continue to rise annually. Current year expenses are approximately \$68,000; funds from the state are estimated at \$15,200. Only from your financial help through this annual Fund Drive appeal can the Library continue to support the area's needs.

We are asking for your tax-deductible donation and your on-going support so that we can continue to meet the needs of the general pub-



lic. Please consider a donation in whatever amount you feel able.

Complete and clip the donation form printed here. Mail to the Minersville Public Library, 220 S. Fourth St., Minersville, PA 17954. For your convenience, a pre-addressed envelope has been inserted with this newsletter.

Super Bowl Raffle

The Library will once again hold a Super Bowl Raffle in 2020 with a Smart TV given away as the top prize. Tickets go on sale at the end of November with the drawing to be held on Super Bowl Sunday. Follow us on Facebook at Minersville Public Library to find out when and how.

2020 FUND DRIVE | MINERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

**PLEASE DONATE ONLY WHAT YOU CAN AFFORD
 TO SUPPORT THE MINERSVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

\$10 \$15 \$20 \$ _____

- Please complete and mail with supplied envelope -

**Buying or Selling A Home?
 Call Your Hometown Realtor**

HOLDEN REALTY, INC.

Joseph J. Post, GRI
Broker/Appraiser

Office: 570-429-2116
 Home: 570-728-2898
 E-mail: JoPost@comcast.net

**TAXES TOO HIGH?
 CALL ME ABOUT DOING A TAX APPEAL!**

All I Want for Christmas is Great Products

**Join Us:
 December 7, 2019 - 9-3**
 Light refreshments • Door prize
 Free gift with purchase
 (while supplies last)

Salon Indulgence

15 Saint John Street • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972
 570.385.2227 • SalonIndulgenceStudio.com

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Create your own holiday wreath or swag

The Schuylkill County Master Gardeners will host a workshop for participants to create their own unique wreath or swag for the holiday season and learn how to keep it fresh and beautiful.



The workshop will be held at Evergreen Acres tree farm, 135 Fort Lebanon Road, Auburn, on Saturday, Nov. 9 from 10 a.m. to noon. The registration deadline is Friday, Nov. 1 with a fee of \$5 plus the cost of supplies - greens, wire, ribbon and decorative natural materials for \$10 (swag) or \$20 (wreath). Call 570-622-4225, ext. 13.

Minersville Veterans Memorial Park

Dedication ceremonies for Minersville Veterans Memorial Park have been set for Veterans Day - Monday, Nov. 11 - at 11 a.m. The public is cordially invited as we dedicate the park in honor of all Minersville area veterans who have served and sacrificed for the freedoms enjoyed by us all. All veterans and those currently serving in the armed services are invited to wear their uniforms.

For those interested, the Park Committee is

currently planning a donor memorial for the site. When plans for the memorial are finalized, a public announcement will appear on the Borough website, Facebook page, and in the local print media.

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.

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 7 p.m. following the parade. The first 100 children will receive a special present from Santa.

Mayor's Missive

As we move toward the end of another year here in the Borough, I thought it would be appropriate to look back on all of the great things that have occurred this year!

From our inaugural National Night Out celebration and the construction and upcoming dedication of Legion Park, to developing a comprehensive plan to deal with blighted properties in the Borough and the groundbreaking for the Miners Lofts project, the Borough has had a busy year!

Our Police Department continues to do an outstanding job, keeping our community safe. Significant drug busts and arrests recently indicate a problem and the effectiveness of our officers. These high profile events should not overshadow the unseen and unheard of community policing our officers do on a daily basis. Many surrounding communities do not have the luxury of 24/7/365 police coverage as Minersville does. Your support of our officers is very much appreciated!

The Borough and its leadership look to build upon the progress that has already been made as we turn the calendar page to begin the new year of 2020 and a new decade. Development of some exciting partnerships and initiatives will keep us moving forward and improving the quality of life for the residents of Minersville!

Enjoy the upcoming holiday season!

- Kerry Kerschner, Minersville Mayor



Kerry Kerschner
Mayor

R&J TOURS - 2019/2020

Call for dates - NYC Free Day	\$45
Call for dates - Radio City Christmas Spectacular	Call
November 12 - Jukebox Broadway @ Mt. Airy	\$68
November 16 - A Christmas Experience @ Antietam	*\$91
November 18 - The Three Scrooges @ Hunterdon Hills.....	\$106
November 20 - Rat Pack Christmas @ Caesars-\$25 FSP	\$78
November 22 - Jurassic World Live Tour	\$68
November 28 - Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade	\$45
November 29 - Snow Queen & Turkey Hill Experience	\$58
December 3 - A Country Christmas @ Mt. Airy	\$68
December 5 - Christmas Feast @ Bube's Brewery	\$89
December 7 - Gourmet Shopping in NY	\$46
December 14 - Holiday Inn @ DADT	\$94
December 18 - Peter Pan @ Fulton Theatre.....	*\$113
January 1 - New Year's Day Celebration	*\$113
April 18 - Frozen on Broadway	\$187
Call for Dates - Philadelphia Flower Show	Call

OVERNIGHTS

Dec. 1-4 - A Capitol Christmas.....	\$852 p/p DBL Occupancy
Dec. 1-6 - Country Christmas Nashville ...	\$1494 p/p DBL Occupancy
Call for dates - Dover Downs	\$142 p/p DBL Occupancy
April 1-2 - del Lago Casino	\$164 p/p DBL Occupancy
April 30-May 3 - Kentucky Derby	\$2259p/p DBL Occupancy
<i>*Child Rates Available</i>	

Call for a Free Copy of our latest TOUR BOOK!

R&J TOURS
www.rjtours.com



P.O. Box 69 • Cressona, PA 17929
570-385-4488 or 1-855-472-3734

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

Holiday schedule

The Minersville Borough offices and services will close several days during the November and upcoming Christmas and New Year holidays - closed all day Monday, Nov. 11 in observance of Veterans Day; Thursday and Friday, Nov. 28 and 29 for Thanksgiving; Wednesday, Dec. 25 in observance of Christmas; and Wednesday, Jan. 1 for the New Year holiday.

In addition, the offices will close early at 11 a.m. on the two Tuesdays before Christmas and on New Year's Eve, Dec. 24 and Dec. 31.

Free holiday parking

Minersville Borough Council is pleased once again to allow free parking for shoppers at all meter locations throughout the Borough beginning Wednesday, Nov. 27 through Thursday, Jan. 2. Please support your local businesses during this holiday season.



Tree collection on one day only

Discard your cut Christmas tree following the holidays. The Borough will collect trees placed curbside on only one designated day - Friday, Jan. 10, 2020. 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.

Honor a Minersville veteran

Minersville Borough is once again hosting the Hometown Hero Banner Program in November this year. Individuals, families, businesses, and community organizations wishing to honor a Minersville Hometown Hero service man or woman with a street banner are encouraged to contact the Borough Office.

Each individual banner will be unique and honor a specific Minersville soldier including their picture, branch of service, and era of service. Note, there is a limit to the number of street light standards throughout town available for mounting of banners. The program is non-political and non-partisan. It is purely a living memorial to those soldiers from the Borough of Minersville who served our country.

- Continued on Page 10



Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home Inc.
Mark J. Mahal Supervisor

"Serving families like family"

570-544-5111

www.mahal-ritzel.com
 mark@mahal-ritzel.com

Robert E. Reedy & Sons, Inc.
Llewellyn

Serving the Community Since 1926

570-544-2076

- Home Heating Oil -

- Kerosene -

- Off-Road Diesel -



At Reedy's, you're a "warm" Friend, not a cold number



Check out our Facebook Page

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

- Continued from Page 9

The Hometown Heroes Banners will be on display from approximately May 2020 (before Memorial Day) to the end of November 2020 (after Veterans Day). Banners will include the sponsor's name and prominently displayed at the bottom of the banner. Current service personnel so honored can be found on the Borough website minersvilleonline.com by selecting the Hometown Hero Program link.

Each sponsorship costs \$125. Applications will be accepted beginning Nov. 4, 2019. Available spots will be filled on a first come basis.

Fire safety is important all year

As a reminder to residents, the community fire alarm will be tested each month and will sound at precisely 6:30 p.m. on the first Monday.

Fire Prevention Week is observed during October each year, but personal safety is something to be practiced throughout the year. To be fire safe, residents should install at least one smoke alarm on every level of your home. Test those smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries when necessary.

Develop an emergency escape plan for your resi-



dence and discuss what to do with all family members. Practice the plan at least twice each year.

If a fire should occur in your home ... GET OUT, STAY OUT and CALL FOR HELP. Never go back inside for anything or anyone.

Private swimming pools

Minersville Code Enforcement reminds residents with seasonal/temporary swimming pools (24 inches or greater depth) must take those pools down each year by September 15 and cannot be put back up the following year before May 15.

These pools require a permit and inspection to verify proper installation and barriers. Permit applications are available by download from the Borough website under the Code Enforcement tab or in-person at the Borough Office.

Recreation Complex

Enjoy the Minersville Recreation Complex this fall season. 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 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.

Ashes and yard waste

Double ash collection will take place January and February only this winter. In addition to the usual Tuesday collection, a second pickup will take place each Friday, beginning January 3 through February 28.

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 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 is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and on Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

Shovel those walks

After a snowfall, PLEASE shovel your sidewalk! Ordinance 317 requires snow and ice to be cleared from the sidewalk within 12 hours after the snow has stopped. In addition, the ordinance prohibits throwing of snow into the street.

No reserved parking

We all know the frustration of having to spend hours shoveling out a vehicle in order to get to work.



3 Berry Rd.
Schuylkill Haven
NEW FALL HOURS:
Wed.-Sun. - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. Evening til 8 p.m.



The Arts Barn Education Center is an art education venue featuring classes, workshops and children's summer art and nature camp in a unique country setting.



Your ONE stop shopping for ALL handmade paintings, sculpture, jewelry, baskets, glass, pottery, soaps, scarves, chainsaw carvings, wooden items, candles, jellies, coffee, soups, etc. and ALWAYS here for you.

Fall/Winter Classes for Adults & Kids

Check our website or call for more information
www.TheArtsBarn.com
570-366-8736 or check us out on Facebook
Deborah@TheArtsBarn.com

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

That frustration skyrockets when returning home to find another vehicle occupying that parking space. Unfortunately, the street is open to the public and you cannot reserve the space you worked so hard to shovel out.

Winter temps threaten water lines

When winter temperatures fall below freezing, you may need to take action to prevent damage inside your home. Under extreme frost conditions, frozen water lines – especially on exterior walls and in unheated crawl spaces – may occur.

Monitor the temperature of the water coming from your faucets. If your water temperature reaches below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, you should immediately start running a continuous pencil-size stream of cold water from one faucet. Contact the Minersville Water Authority office to make officials aware of your water usage.

Frozen pipes?

If you think you have frozen water lines, here are some steps to find the problem and get you back into service.

Identify whether the problem exists throughout the whole house or in one area. Open the cabinets beneath any place with a water supply, such as the kitchen and bathroom sinks, to allow warm air to circulate. If there are small children in the home, remove any toxic substances first.

Open the cold water faucet nearest the frozen pipe to relieve the pressure of expanding ice, which may lead to a burst pipe. If your water lines do freeze, never try to thaw a line with an open flame or torch. You can use a hair dryer or portable heater, but always be careful of the potential for electric shock in and around standing water.

If you think you may have a frozen water meter, contact the Minersville Water Authority at 570-544-2200. For after-hours emergencies, contact 570-527-6165. Be advised, after-hours charges will apply.

Emergency contact info needed

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) mandates that all municipal authorities maintain an emergency contact list. Customers of the Minersville Municipal Water Authority must provide a preferred notification means when the authority is experiencing a “Tier 1” emergency, typically a pressure loss in the system, a boil advisory, chemical accident or similar event that necessitates quick notification to the public. This contact information will only be used in the event of such an emergency.

Customers must choose their preferred method of contact from the following:

- Phone Method - Complete the form on the next page and mail it to the Borough Office, 2 E. Sunbury Street, Minersville PA 17954; or,

- Continued on Page 12

MILLER BROS.

CONSTRUCTION INC.

www.millerbros.com



Now Hiring
Join Our Team
Apply Today

Join the Miller Bros. Construction Team and Work for the Best!

HIRING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS

Competitive Wages & Benefits
Based on Abilities & Experience
Apply online or call for appt.

950 E. Main Street, Schuylkill Haven
570-385-1662 • millerbros.com

DONALD J. BUTLER FUNERAL HOME

328 Sunbury Street
Minersville, PA 17954-1240

*Comprehensive Funeral Arrangements
with Compassion, Dignity and Respect*

570-544-6775 Always Available for Pre-Planning
or at Your Immediate Time In Need



Veteran Owned and Operated
www.DonaldJButlerFH.com

Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

- Continued from Page 11

- E-mail Method - Send an e-mail with your name and address to minerswateremergency@comcast.net. Also, add this address to your contact list so you are sure to receive the notifications.

Minersville Municipal Water Authority Emergency Notification By Phone

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Clip and Mail to:

Minersville Municipal Water Authority,
2 E. Sunbury Street, Minersville, PA 17954

Contact the Minersville Municipal Water Authority office at 570-544-2200 during office hours Monday through Thursday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

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.

Lots of ways to pay your utility bills

Minersville Borough property owners and residents have many options to make payment for Water, Sewer, and Sanitation services.

Pay online through the Borough website - minersvilleonline.com - by credit/debit card or by e-check. There are separate fees associated with this option that will be added to the payment amount. To make payments online, you will need the account number and a PIN (Personal Identification Number).

If you have multiple accounts, you will have a separate PIN for each account. Should you lose/forget your PIN, contact the Borough office to send a letter to your billing address with the PIN. For your security, your number will not be given out over the phone.

Direct withdrawal from your bank account can be arranged. The Water Authority and Sewer Authority tab on the Borough website have the authorization form for completion with instructions to mail or deliver to the Borough Office. Direct withdrawal payments will be taken on the billing due date.

Questions regarding these online methods for bill payment? Contact the Borough Office at 570-544-2149. Of course, payments can also be made with cash, check, or money order in person at the office, Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; or mail (no cash) to the office at 2 E. Sunbury St., Minersville.

MAMMOTH MATERIALS

SITE OFFICE: Rt. 901, Minersville
570-544-8245

COAL DELIVERY AVAILABLE



PICK YOUR PRICE FROM OUR COAL BUCKET!
(For Coal Price)

GET THE COAL BEFORE THE COLD GETS YOU!

DECORATIVE STONE

ROCK • MULCH • TOPSOIL

CRUSHED STONE

WE HAVE RICE, BUCK, NUT AND PEA COAL BULK AND BAGS-PICK UP ONLY! STOP IN OR CALL FOR DETAILS.

Mon.-Fri. 8 to 4; Sat. 8 to 3






LEHR'S FEED & FARM SUPPLY

DO YOU LIKE TO FEED THE WILDLIFE IN YOUR BACKYARD?
WE MIX ALL OUR WILDLIFE FEEDS RIGHT HERE IN PINE GROVE.



Frequent Buyer Cards (Get one bag FREE when card is filled) for our **Wildbird Feed** and **Shelled & Cracked Corn**. See store for details.

We have five Wildbird mixes - Backyard Blend, Premium Blend, Cardinal Deluxe, Dove Blend, Finches Delight - all formulated to not end up on the ground under your feeder.

Our Corn & Wildlife Grains are huge favorites among Wildlife enthusiasts.

10 Snyder Ave., Pine Grove, PA (570) 345-3309

Minersville Recycling and Compost Site

Get Ready! Changes to Be Aware of and Act!

You have probably seen some activity happening at the Borough's Recycling and Compost area located at the end of N. Delaware Avenue. A layout change has been in progress plus a card-activated security gate and enhanced high definition security cameras have been installed. At this time, no official date has been set for activation.

The added security will assist in monitoring the items that are being brought in, identify those illegally dumping unacceptable items, and will restrict the site to Borough residents only.

Access will require a key card. The initial card will be free. Residents wanting access will be required to fill out a registration form and provide proof of residency. Once this is done, the key card will be loaded into our database and activated.

The keycard holder will be provided information regarding the use of the card. Informational signs will be posted at the site stating the guidelines for access and use of the area.

Any violation of the guidelines could result in the cardholder's privileges being revoked and the card being deactivated. Illegal dumping will lead to fines and/or criminal charges. The Borough of Schuylkill Haven has had a similar system in place for several years and experienced much success operating its services.

Challenges to recycling of compost

Borough officials have been discussing the chal-

lenges and means to deal with the handling of compost. Like many other communities, we are having a difficult time finding any company willing to take yard waste such as limbs, trees, leaves, etc.

Companies willing to accept such waste require the municipality to haul it to their site. Once at their site, the load could be rejected should there be any contamination - anything that is not yard waste. This is why the security improvements at the Minersville compost area are so important.

The problem caused by contaminated dumping of compost has caused many other municipal collection sites to close and local governments to discontinue providing this valuable service.

Instead, some opt to have a third party hauler collect the yard waste material. Of course, such a plan would entail additional cost for the municipality and its residents.

Minersville Borough Council is not considering this option. But, if the contamination continues to be a problem, limiting the compost area access to scheduled supervised times for drop-off could be enacted.

Prior to activation of the new security and access gate keycard system to the recycling and compost area, announcements and further details will be posted on the Borough website, Facebook page, and publicly-circulated newspapers. Stay tuned.

Who Ya Gonna Call?

Borough Office	544-2149
Police Department	544-2333
(non-emergency)	
Water Authority	544-2200
Sewer Authority	544-2149
Tax Collector	544-4391
Library	544-5196
Post Office	544-3490
Minersville Fire-Rescue . .	544-3707
Good Will Hose Co.	544-6099
New Minersville Hose Co. .	544-9152
Mountaineer Hose Co. . . .	544-9622

Schuylkill Dental Medicine

Welcomes
Michael R. Kudryk

From New York City to Minersville, PA

Dr. Kudryk brings 22 years of experience to the area. His care, skill, judgement and trust are reasons to come see him.



Call to schedule an appointment or stop by just to say "Hello"!

Schuylkill Dental Medicine
Advanced Dental Care for Adults & Children



Michael R. Kudryk, DMD
42 E. Sunbury Street
Minersville PA 17954

Ph: 570.544.4785 • www.schuylkilldental.com

Enjoy Your Holiday; Don't Be a Scam Victim

The holiday season is a time for joy, but your joy may be dashed if a scammer gets hold of your funds. The Better Business Bureau has put together a list of the 12 common scams during the Christmas season.

It's important to trust your instincts and take time before giving any of your personal information. The more urgent it is for you to hand over your personal information, the more likely it's a scam.



1) Puppy scams

Be very careful when buying pets online, especially during the holidays. You can end up with an unhealthy puppy from a puppy mill or nothing at all because that dog never existed and it was all a scam. Always research where you are buying the dog and never wire any money. Be sure to pick up the puppy in person instead of paying someone to ship it.

2) Bad public Wi-Fi

While Wi-Fi is convenient, it does have risks. Never turn off your firewall, and make sure your antivirus protection is up-to-date whenever you are connected to public Wi-Fi. Scammers are after your money and your identity. Never use public Wi-Fi when you go on social media sites, especially when you use online banking.

3) Grandparents scam

Senior citizens should be very cautious if they get a call, supposedly from a grandchild claiming to be in an accident, hospitalized or arrested when traveling in another country. Never send any money unless you have confirmed with other family members this is true.

4) Travel scams

The holidays are the biggest travel days of the year. That means scammers are lurking. Booking online is the most convenient way for many, but a scammer can be on the other end of the computer. Before you book, make sure you are booking through a reputable and verifiable website. Also, be wary of online ads and never wire any money to someone you don't know.

5) Shipping notification phishing

Scammers take advantage of the online holiday

shopping season. They send you fake emails of shipping notifications posing as FedEx, UPS or the postal service.

When you click on the email you find out that the file isn't a shipping notification after all, and a virus just downloaded itself into your computer. Scammers claim the attached "virus" is the receipt you need to pick up your package. Remember never to click on any links in unsolicited emails, and keep track of all online purchases as a reference to any check against emails sent to your account.

6) Fake charities

The holiday season is the time for giving and there are many charities out there needing help. Be sure your generosity is indeed going to the right places. Scammers can easily set up fake charities with similar sounding names, and they also solicit via email, social media and by txt. Always research the charity with BBB Wise Giving Alliance at give.org beforehand to see if that charity meets the 20 Standards for Charity Accountability.

Christmas Trivia Quiz

1. In the song "Frosty the Snowman," what made Frosty come to life?
2. Who played George Bailey in the Christmas classic "It's a Wonderful Life?"
3. In Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol," what was Mr. Scrooge's first name?
4. In the early 1800s, the first gingerbread houses were reportedly inspired by what famous fairy tale?
5. In the movie "A Christmas Story," what was the name of the next door neighbors whose dogs ate the Christmas turkey?
6. In the 1964 classic "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," what was the name of Rudolph's faithful elf companion?
7. In the TV special "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," what three words best describe the Grinch?
8. What Christmas carol does the Peanuts gang sing at the end of "A Charlie Brown Christmas?"
9. "Miracle on 34th Street" centers on what real-life department store?
10. In what modern-day country was Saint Nicholas born?



Answers: 1. Silk hat; 2. Jimmy Stewart; 3. Ebenezer; 4. Hansel and Gretel; 5. Bumpuses; 6. Hermey; 7. Stink, stank, stunk; 8. Hark! The Herald Angels Sing; 9. Macy's; 10. Turkey

Minersville Police and Better Business Bureau

7) Santa scammers

What's better than a letter from Santa to light up your child's face? Many trusted companies offer charming and personalized letters from Santa, but scammers mimic them to get personal information from unsuspecting parents.

Always check the website's privacy policies before entering any information to know how it will be used. If you don't see a policy, then leave that website. Keep your computer secure by using firewalls, anti-spyware and antivirus software.

8) Unusual forms of payment

Be wary of anyone who asks you to pay for holiday purchases using prepaid debit cards, gift cards, wire transfers, third parties, etc. These payments can't be traced and undone. Use a credit card on a secure website "https . . ." (the "s" is for secure) and the lock symbol.

9) Look-a-like website

It's easy to recreate a website with familiar logo, so beware when you're shopping online. Some red flags are the webpage is in "http" format (not the secure "https"), no contact information, and even asking for payment by wire or money card. If you're not

sure if the site can be trusted, go to bbb.org and read online reviews first.

10) Counterfeit goods

Luxury goods at low prices are almost always cheap counterfeits. Handbags, jewelry, watches, fragrances, wallets, and electronic devices are among the top of the list of items counterfeited. Always buy from reputable sellers, and check the web for signs of counterfeit goods.

11) Fake callers

The Better Business Bureau sees an increase in phony calls during the holiday season. Callers claim to be from the IRS or a debt collector and try to get personal information from you. Be wary of unfamiliar numbers calling you, and ask questions to confirm their identity. Remember the IRS will NEVER contact you by phone.

12) Malware E-Cards

E-Cards are a fun way to send holiday greetings, but be careful. Senders like to attach viruses along with them. Don't click on emails from someone you don't know or a name you don't recognize. When in doubt, delete it out.



SOUTH SCHUYLKILL PRINTING & PUBLISHING

960 E. Main Street • P.O. Box 178 • Schuylkill Haven, PA 17972

Ph: (570) 385-3120 • printing@southschuylkill.net

2020 BUSINESS PLAN

FREE

BUSINESS CARDS

(One Design / Full Color / Qty. 500)

With Order of Full Color

ENVELOPES or LETTERHEADS or EDDM POSTCARD

Limit one coupon per order. Expires 1/31/20

EDDM

POSTCARDS

(Every Door Direct Mail)

18.7¢ Postage

WE DESIGN IT PRINT IT & MAIL IT

ANY PRINT ORDER

10% OFF

Placed 11/1/19 thru 1/31/20

New or Loyal Customers.

With This Coupon

Limit one coupon
per order.

Expires 1/31/20

OFFICE HOURS:

**Mon. thru Thurs.
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed Friday**

www.SouthSchuylkill.com



Official Publication www.minersvilleonline.com
 Borough of Minersville
 2 East Sunbury Street · Minersville, PA 17954

PRSR STD
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Pottsville PA
 17901
 Permit No. 16

Official Matter
 of Minersville Borough



ECRWSS Postal Customer
 Minersville, PA 17954

Kick Off the Holiday Season in Minersville! Welcome Santa December 1 with a Parade.



2019 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Minersville Borough Offices will be closed
 the following days*

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

The Borough Office will 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.*

