



# MINERS' JOURNAL

Official Publication



Borough of Minersville

[www.minersvilleonline.com](http://www.minersvilleonline.com)

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BOROUGH OF MINERSVILLE, PA

October 2022

## Borough and Sewer Authority Projects Update

### State of the Borough: Minersville Is On The Move!



**Bob Mahalchick**  
Borough Manager

I hope this edition of the *Miners' Journal* finds you all healthy and safe. With the fall season upon us, take time to enjoy the beautiful, colorful, and cooler weather. As always, I want to take this opportunity to give you all an update on Borough happenings.

#### *Finish line is in sight*

The final phase of the sidewalk replacement portion of the

Multimodal Streetscape Project, Third Street to Fourth Street block, commenced the last week of September. With the installation of streetscape decorative lighting, completion is expected by the end of October.

As you know from past information, the original project area - based on the grant the Borough was awarded - would have been from Delaware Avenue up to Third Street on the Sunbury Street corridor. Bids came in at half the projected costs, resulting in excess funds. We requested, and fortunately received, approval from DCED to keep the excess funds to extend the project to Fourth Street. Thank you to DCED for looking kindly on our request to keep the excess funding to expand our streetscape project.

Completion of the "No-Match" Multi Modal Streetscape Grant Project on Sunbury Street, from Delaware Avenue to 4th Street, is within sight. The total grant funding received, with NO expenditure layout by our taxpayers, for the project is \$1,581,236.

#### *Potholes and crack sealing time*

The Street Department will continue to address potholes. Crack sealing has begun with the cooler weather now upon us. Cooler weather allows the sealant to cure and not be sticky. If you are aware of a

- Continued on Page 2

## HALLOWEEN EVENTS

**HALLOWEEN PARADE** - Come out for a hauntingly good time and watch a parade of costumed characters at the annual Halloween Parade on Sat., October 22. The parade forms at 6 p.m. and steps off at 6:30. There will be plenty of shrieks and thrills along with treats for the children. Want to have more fun? Dress up in your favorite costume and join in the parade! More info on Page 6

RAIN DATE - SUNDAY, OCT. 23

**HAUNTED HOUSE** - Once again the Carbon Street Scream Team will offer shrieks of surprise and joy as its Haunted House opens to all ages on three scheduled nights. This year "The Mad House" will be staged in the old Globe Hall above Borough Hall, 2 E. Sunbury St., from 7 to 9 p.m., debuting on Sunday, Oct. 23 and then the following week-end on both Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 29-30. More information on Page 6. This event will be held regardless of weather.

**TRICK OR TREAT** - Mon., 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 - TUESDAY, NOV. 1

## SANTA PARADE

**Sunday, Nov. 27**

**Parade - 5:30 p.m.**  
**Visit with Santa - Page 7**



## On the inside . . .

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# 2022 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.

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## OFFICIALS

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Chief of Police ..... Michael Combs  
President of Council ..... Ian Mahal  
Borough Manager..... Bobby Mahalchick  
Secretary ..... Gloria Capik  
Treasurer ..... Megan Paul  
Tax Receiver..... Heidi Hashin  
Solicitor..... Albert Evans  
Borough Engineer ..... Entech Engineering, Inc.  
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Health Officer..... Kyle Crouse  
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## BOROUGH OFFICE

Megan Paul, Office Manager  
Leigh Ann Cielinski • Jennifer Hossler

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

## 2022 OFFICIAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Minersville Borough offices will be closed in 2022 in observance of the stated holidays - Presidents Day, Feb. 21; Good Friday (half day, close at 11 a.m.), April 15; Memorial Day, May 30; Independence Day, July 4; Labor Day, Sept. 5; Columbus Day, Oct. 10; Veterans Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving and day after, Nov. 24 and 25; Christmas, Dec. 23 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Dec. 26 (observed); New Year's, Dec. 30 (half day, close at 11 a.m.), Jan. 2, 2023 (observed).

# State of the Borough

- Continued from Page 1

missed pothole, please contact the Borough Office in order for a work order to be generated.

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

## Sewer Authority news

The Sewer and Water Authority's joint project on Pine and Jones streets is still ongoing. The project consists of the replacement of existing storm, sanitary and water lines on Pine Street between 3rd and 4th streets along with full width restoration of the street. The contract was awarded to Barrasso Oley, PA - at a contract amount of \$516,295.

Projects of this type are done where the existing infrastructure is in need of replacement. With both authorities working together, it maximizes the benefit of project investment. Completion is expected by late October.

## Prepare for the season to come

As the fall season gives way to winter, I want to again mention a few safety reminders and tidbits:

- Have your heating system checked and chimney inspected to ensure yourself a warm environment and to keep you and your family safe.
- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide alarms to ensure each operates correctly.
- Ensure your vehicle has routine maintenance done to avoid dead batteries, bald tires, ineffective windshield wipers, etc. It's all about your safety and others.

## Improving quality of life

In closing, I want to kindly ask you all to team up with our Council, Mayor, myself, and our employees to tap the vast potential our hometown presents. Together, we will aggressively pursue opportunities to improve the quality of life for all residents, making Minersville the best it can be.

I wish you and your families a healthy, safe, happy, and enjoyable Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year during the upcoming holiday season.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve all of you and provide you with this update on the State of OUR Borough. Wishing all a healthy and safe fall and winter. **MINERSVILLE ON THE MOVE!**

**Minersville's Nicholas Bervinchak** (1903-1978) produced more than 180 etchings and paintings depicting life in the anthracite region of Pennsylvania from the late 1920s until 1978. His work appears in numerous museums around the world. Born in Shenandoah, he was of Ukrainian descent.



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# Minersville Area High School Football

## Battlin' Miners Join State's Elite 600-Win Club

By Shayne Schafer

On Friday, Sept. 9, the Minersville Area High School "Battlin' Miners" football team traveled to Shenandoah to play one of their oldest rivals, the "Blue Devils." The team was victorious, coming home with the 600th win in program history. As of this writing at the end of September, our all-time record now stands at 602-487-38.

The Blue Devils are most appropriate against which to reach that milestone, being the second oldest opponent. The Minersville-Shenandoah rivalry dates back to 1908 and includes 107 match-ups, the most of any opponent. The Miners played - and won - its first ever championship against Shenandoah in 1921. It feels appropriate for that historic moment to be against

another storied Schuylkill County program.

Speaking of storied programs, the Battlin' Miners join an elite group of legendary teams across the state with 600+ wins - the likes of Mount Carmel, Berwick, Steelton-Highspire, and Aliquippa. Minersville reaffirms its tradition of football excellence.



It's quite an accomplishment for any team to join the 600-win club, let alone a small school like ours. Minersville is the 53rd team to reach that goal in the state, the 3rd in District XI (Easton with 873 and Pottsville with 712 victories), and the 2nd in Schuylkill County. Schuylkill County has many quality programs, and for us to be the first small school in our area to reach 600 is an honor.

Minersville has a strong football tradition and legacy, playing its first game in 1894 and fielding a team continuously since 1910. We've won five Eastern Conference championships, three Schuylkill County titles, and one District XI championship.

Minersville's football history encompasses 128 years and counting and has surpassed 1,000 games. It's impossible to do our program's legacy justice in one article. Over the coming issues, we'll take a look at an abridged history of Minersville football in four articles.

Next time we'll discuss the early years of the program, leading to our first championship in 1921.

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

## Halloween parade is Saturday, Oct. 22

Minersville knows how to celebrate Halloween! Activities kick off on Saturday, Oct. 22 with the annual Halloween Parade of ghouls, goblins, super heroes, princesses, service organizations and floats, business entries, and fire and ambulance vehicles. Inclement weather could postpone the parade until the following evening, Sunday, Oct. 23.

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



The parade will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. traveling south onto 4th Street; left onto North Street; right onto North Delaware Avenue; right onto Sunbury Street; right onto 5th Street; right onto North Street; and then concluding at 4th Street.

Marching groups, floats, bands, vehicles, and individuals wanting to be in the parade **MUST** register in advance. Adherence to this policy is for the safety of our participants. Complete the entry form found here and return to the Borough Office in advance prior to October 22. The parade entry form is also available on the Borough's Facebook page at [minersvilleborough](http://minersvilleborough).

## 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)

<b>FLOAT</b>	<b>BAND</b> # in band _____
<b>MARCHING UNIT</b> # of marchers _____	<b>OTHER</b> Describe _____

Mail completed form to:

Minersville Borough  
2 E Sunbury St.  
Minersville, PA 17954

**OR** – Call to register: 570-544-2149

## Haunted House slated Oct. 23, 29 & 30

After a 2-year hiatus, the Borough's popular Haunted House will return for three nightly events.

On Sunday, Oct. 23 the Carbon Street Scream Team, in cooperation with the Recreation Committee, will swing open the doors of the old Globe Hall, 2 E. Sunbury St. (above the Borough Office) and welcome brave patrons into "The Mad House." The event will continue the following weekend on Saturday and Sunday - October 29 & 30 - and run approximately 7 to 9 p.m. all three nights.

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

The Haunted House is an indoor event that will take place rain or shine. A variation from previous events, this year's attraction will charge only a \$2 general admission entry fee. Return visits are encouraged as patrons should expect a unique experience each visit.

General admission tickets will be available at the door. But, anyone wishing to avoid waiting in line should visit or call ahead to the Borough Office (570-544-2149), during normal business hours, to purchase reserved tickets for an additional \$1 (\$3 total). A limited number of reserve tickets may be available at the door, but this cannot be guaranteed.

## Trick-or-Treat on Halloween night

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

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



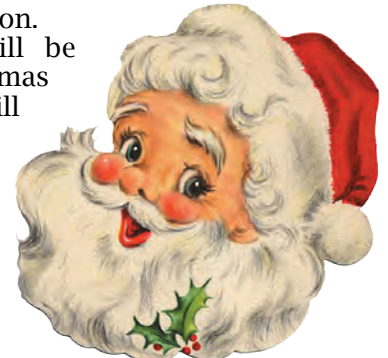
Residents are asked to have their porch light on, or some other inviting gestures, as a sign that the children are welcome to ring the bell and get a treat. Parents and chaperones are asked to be diligent with young children when crossing streets and making them aware of vehicular traffic. Flashlights and reflective clothing are encouraged. Rain date is Tuesday, Nov. 1.

## Santa is coming to Minersville

The Minersville Recreation Board will sponsor a Christmas parade on Sunday, Nov. 27, 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 6:30 p.m. following the parade. The first 100 children will receive a special present from Santa.



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## A Christmas PARTY!

Especially for ages Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Older children are welcome to attend.

Saturday, December 3, 2022  
10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. FREE

Register your child by calling 570-544-8042 or by email [office@cefschuylkill.com](mailto:office@cefschuylkill.com) by November 30th.

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

*All workers have been screened according to Pennsylvania state law.*

For more information contact:  
CEF of Schuylkill County

Phone: 570-544-8042\*Email: [office@cefschuylkill.com](mailto:office@cefschuylkill.com)  
Website: [www.cefschuylkill.com](http://www.cefschuylkill.com)

A light lunch will be provided

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

- Continued from Page 7



## Christmas Decorating Contest

It is with great pleasure that the Minersville Lions Club announces its 3rd annual Christmas Decorating Contest for homes and businesses. The main objective is to brighten our spirits, our neighborhoods, and to bring holiday cheer. The contest is open to the entire Minersville Area School District.

Here are the rules ...

1. Registration begins on November 25 and ends on December 11 at 11:59 p.m. The cost of entry is \$20. All payments and registration must be submitted by the deadline.
2. Exterior judging will take place Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 17-18. Please have lights turned on no later than 6:30 p.m. as judging will begin at 7 p.m.
3. There will be three categories:
  - a. Traditional - Lights, garland, wreaths, smaller scale
  - b. Modern - Blow ups, larger scale decorations, light show
  - c. Business - Anything goes

4. There will be prizes given to the top three places in each category
5. Winners will be announced at the Lions meeting on December 21.
6. Please fill out the form and send that with payment to the Minersville Lions Club, P.O. Box 461, Minersville, PA 17954

For any questions, please refer to the Minersville Lions Facebook page or email [akilburn.lions@gmail.com](mailto:akilburn.lions@gmail.com)

## 3rd Annual Minersville Lions Christmas Decorating Contest

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Traditional     Modern     Business

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

## Borough Office holidays

The Minersville Borough offices and employee operations will be closed in observance of the following holidays for the balance of 2022: Friday, Nov. 11 (Veterans Day); Thursday and Friday, Nov. 24-25 (Thanksgiving); Friday, Dec. 23 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Monday, Dec. 26 (Christmas, observed); Friday, Dec. 30 (half day, close at 11 a.m.) and Monday, Jan. 2 (New Year's Day, observed).

## 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. 13, 2023. 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. 20.



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.

## Ash collection

Curbside ash collection in the Borough occurs every Tuesday during the spring, summer, and fall months. A second collection day is added on Fridays during the heating months of January and February. All ashes created, accumulated or produced shall be

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# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

deposited in one bushel (15 gallon) steel tubs. Any tub in excess of one bushel must not contain more than the maximum 15 gallons of ashes in that tub. In addition, all ash containers must be free of holes or rust and have safe (smooth) handles. Tubs in poor condition will not be emptied/handled.

Place your ash tubs curbside after 6 p.m. on the evening before collection. Remove your tubs soon after they are emptied.

## Trash and recycling collection

Trash collection occurs throughout the Borough every Tuesday. Bags for pickup should be placed curbside after 6 p.m. on Monday evening. Recyclable materials should not be placed in the normal trash. Violators are subject to fines and prosecution per Borough ordinance.

Recyclable materials - unbroken glass containers, tin, aluminum, #1 to #7 plastics, newspaper and clean paper products, and cardboard - are collected curbside twice per month. These materials must be placed in a designated recycling container. Properties north of Sunbury Street receive 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.

## 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 residence 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.

## 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. That frustration skyrockets when returning home to

- Continued on Page 10



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 Sanchez-Linares  
 cello

F. Allen Artz III  
 organ



### Gabriel Chamber Ensemble

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 www.gabrielensemble.org Gabriel Chamber Ensemble

# Borough Services Update . . . And Events!

- Continued from Page 9

find another vehicle occupying that parking space. Unfortunately, the street is open to the public and you can't reserve the space you worked so hard to clear.

## 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.

## 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.



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## Reminders from Code Enforcement

### Planning That Next Project? You May Need a Permit!

When planning projects, please remember to contact the Borough Office regarding Building Permits.

Permits are required for all new construction and all replacements or alterations of roofs, windows, doors, garage doors, electrical, plumbing, heating systems (including supplemental heating units), sidewalks, curbing, fencing with 6' maximum height, chimney replacement, or installation of liners, foundations, swimming pool and hot tub installation, oil storage tanks, sub-flooring, and interior renovations.

Adding to your existing structure, i.e. new decks and enclosing decks, will require a building permit and a zoning permit. Zoning permits are administered by the Schuylkill County Zoning Office; contact the office at 570-628-1415.

If you are contemplating replacing your windows, please be aware when shopping around for windows that all windows installed in this area must have a U-factor of 0.30 or lower. This number has been established under the 2015 Uniform Construction Code adopted by the State of Pennsylvania and

enforced throughout Pennsylvania. If the windows do not have the proper U-factor, they will not pass code inspection.



Any individual with seasonal/temporary swimming pools (24 inches or greater in depth), must take down those pools each year by September 15 and cannot be installed the following year prior to May 15. These pools require a permit and inspection to verify proper installation and barriers. Seasonal/temporary swimming pool permit applications are available on our website: [www.minersvilleonline.com](http://www.minersvilleonline.com)

under the Code Enforcement tab.

If you require a dumpster for construction demolition, you need to get a permit. The permitting process will provide information as to appropriate placement of the dumpster and other needs for public safety, protection of property, and making the work as easy as possible for all concerned.

If you have any questions regarding any of these items, please feel free to contact our office at 570-544-2149.



# INTEGRATED MEDICAL GROUP, P.C.

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## Kick Off the Holiday Season in Minersville! Welcome Santa on Nov. 27 with a Parade

### 2022 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Minersville Borough Offices will be closed  
the following days*

- Friday - November 11th | Veterans Day
- Thursday - November 24th | Thanksgiving
- Friday - November 25th
- Monday - December 26th | Christmas (Observed)
- Monday - January 2nd | New Year's Day (Observed)

The Borough Office will also close early at 11 a.m. on Friday, Dec. 23 and Dec. 30

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

