

# ZELIENOPE NEWS

SUMMER 2023

VOL. 9

## Meet the Manager

Andrew Spencer has been a Zelenople Borough employee for 15 years and has recently been promoted to Borough Manager.

Andrew was born and raised in Western Pennsylvania but attended college at Asbury University in Wilmore, Kentucky, where he studied Business Management and History.



Despite his plan to stay in Kentucky, Andrew decided to return to Pennsylvania to obtain his Master of Public Administration from Gannon University in Erie.

By chance, Andrew met former Zelenople Borough Manager, Don Pepe, in 2007 at a chamber of commerce event. The two hit it off, and Don, along with Borough Council, encouraged Andrew to join his staff in Zelenople. From there, Andrew began his journey with the Borough as Assistant to the Manager.

While in this role, he gained knowledge and experience on the innerworkings of local government and provided administrative support to Don and the Assistant Borough Manager at the time, Jill Stedina. In 2020, Andrew transitioned to the role of Assistant Borough Manager, utilizing his educational and professional experiences to enhance operations.

**"I love Zelenople because it's small town America and what it embodies, and I hope we can preserve that."**

Following Don's retirement in February 2023, Andrew assumed the role of Borough Manager. "I've enjoyed working in the business affairs of the Borough," he said, "and the people I've met." Andrew said he strives to live by the words "Do the best you can with what you have where you are." That sentiment has been a driving force throughout his career and his style of leadership. He stresses the importance of servant leadership, a model that calls for leaders to prioritize serving the greater good.

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He is proud of Borough staff and Council for their continued efforts to improve water and electric services and enhance processes with the municipal electric company.

As Borough Manager, he is looking forward to the completion of the Main Street Revitalization projects and continuing to improve utility services.

Andrew is involved with the Association for Pennsylvania Municipal Management, Pennsylvania Municipal Electric Association, and American Municipal Power.

## The Borough of Zelenople Community Visioning Survey

We want your feedback!

The Borough of Zelenople is in the process of developing a Comprehensive Plan that will establish a framework for the future of Zelenople over the next 20 to 30 years.

By completing this survey, you will be shaping the future of our community.

**Take our survey!**



<https://tinyurl.com/zeliesurvey1>

# Marietta Reeb

OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER



Marietta Reeb, a longtime Zelenople resident, has served on Borough Council for 20 years and will be finishing her last term this year.

After moving from Mars to Zelenople in 1953, Marietta worked retail jobs along Main Street. "I always worked on Main Street," she said, "I guess that's why I love Main Street so much and feel it is an important thing for a community to have."

Inspired by her father who was involved in politics and her desire to contribute to the betterment of Zelenople, Marietta decided to run for Tax Collector in the early 1980s, a position her daughter-in-law now holds.

**"I love Zelenople, and I just think it is a really important thing for people to want to be active in their community."**

Being Tax Collector allowed Marietta to be at home with her family. "This is a wonderful town to raise a family," she said, "in fact, all of my kids are still in this area... and many of my grandchildren. A lot of them do a lot of volunteer work, which I am really proud of."

Marietta enjoyed getting to know her fellow Zelenople residents while serving as Tax Collector. "I had the office in my home," she said, "and they would come in and talk to me about their concerns about Zelenople. Most people didn't want it to grow, but you have to have growth in a community. So, that encouraged me when the term came up that I could run for Council."

"I thought 'I want to do this. I want to know how it all works,'" she said. And so, Marietta successfully ran for a seat on Borough Council. Throughout her terms, she has been involved with the Safety, Water, and Electric Committees. Marietta said she has greatly enjoyed her time on Council and is thankful for the opportunity to be involved. "A lot of good things have happened since I have been on Council," she said, but Main Street Revitalization has been the most exciting according to her.

"It's really been an eye-opener and a learning experience," she said, "and I think more young people ought to get enthusiastic about raising their families here and getting involved in our community."

While she will no longer be serving on Zelenople Borough Council, Marietta plans to stay active in the community. She is responsible for planning and facilitating fundraising efforts for the Zelenople Historical Society, such as the Home Tour, Spring Tea, and Quilt Raffle. She is Treasurer for the local Salvation Army and continues to serve on Western Butler County Authority board. She is also part of her church's choir and handbell choir. "I am keeping my hands in the pot," she said.

In addition to her involvement with community organizations, she also likes to read and do puzzles. "I won't be bored," she said.

## Memorial Bench Dedication

A memorial bench was placed in front of the Borough Municipal Building in recognition and memory of longtime Zelenople Borough employee Jill Stedina, who passed away unexpectedly in December 2020. She served as Assistant Manager for the Borough. The bench is a tribute to the outstanding work and dedication that distinguished Jill throughout her 34-year career with the Borough. In attendance for the special ceremony were her family, Borough officials, and coworkers whom she positively impacted. Jill is missed by many.



# Ralph Geis

OUTGOING COUNCILMEMBER



Born and raised in Zelienople, Ralph Geis has watched the Borough grow and change, and, for the last 12 years, he has been an integral part of Zelienople Borough Council. He will be finishing his last term this year.

Growing up in Zelienople, “it was a nice, safe community for everyone,” he said, “and I wanted to make sure that it stayed a nice, small community... but still be able to grow with the future.”

He started working in the finance industry in 1961 and moved on to larger banks. He was the Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer of a billion-dollar bank before he transitioned into title and loan work.

During his professional career, he worked around the Pittsburgh area. When asked why he didn't move, he said, “Why would I want to leave Zelienople?” He is proud of the progress that has been made in the community.

“We have a great police force. We have a great Borough staff. We have a great council. We have one of the best parks around,” he said, “People want to come to Zelienople. That shows something.”

He has served as the Electric and Finance Committee Chairperson and also serves on the HRC and Water Committees. His background in finance made him an especially good fit for the Finance Committee, where he played an integral role in budget and pension matters, which he feels has been his greatest accomplishment during his time on Council. “We get together and try to do what's best for the Borough,” he said.

**"I wanted to make sure that [Zelienople] stayed a nice, small community... but still be able to grow with the future."**

Ralph encourages residents to be an active part of the community. “We need new blood that can be very active in the Borough that can bring good things,” he said, “and make sure that things get done and get done right.”

## Borough Staff Update

Andrew Spencer has been promoted to Borough Manager, and Cindy Edwards has been promoted to Assistant Borough Manager.

We would also like to welcome our new employee, Kristen Spezialetti, the Borough's Communications and Administrative Services Coordinator.



## Volunteer of the Year Nominations Open

***Do you know an outstanding volunteer?***

The Borough of Zelienople is asking for nominations of individuals to be considered for Volunteer of the Year. The deadline for nominations is July 17, 2023.

Nomination forms are available on the Borough website: [www.zelieboro.org](http://www.zelieboro.org).



# ZELIENOPE PARKS AND RECREATION

## ZELIENOPE COMMUNITY POOL

**Open 7 Days a Week!**

Open to Members: 11:00am-7:00pm  
Open to Public: 11:30am-7:00pm

Hours are subject to change at any time due to inclement weather or low attendance. Check Zelenople Community Park Facebook page for updates!

## SCUBA CERTIFICATION COURSES

Zelenople Community Pool will be hosting three PADI Scuba certification classes this summer! Mars Scuba will be holding classes from 6-9pm during the following sessions:

**July 10, 12, 17, and 19**  
**August 7, 9, 14, and 16**  
**September 11, 13, 18, and 20**

For more information or to register, visit [www.MarsScuba.com](http://www.MarsScuba.com).

## POOL NIGHT SWIMS

**MEMBERS ONLY  
APPRECIATION  
NIGHTS**

7:30-9:30pm

**July 11th**  
**August 15th**

**PUBLIC NIGHT  
SWIMS**

7:30-9:30pm

**July 24th**  
**August 8th**

Residents: \$7  
Non-Residents: \$9  
Open to Members

## POOL PARTIES

Make a splash! Book your party at the pool. Party packages and after hours options available. For more details, call 724-473-0921 ext. 245.

**Register for swim lessons, rent a pavillion, purchase a pool membership, and more at [www.myzeliepark.com](http://www.myzeliepark.com).**

**Zelenople Community Park**  
**402 E. Beaver Street**  
**Zelenople, PA 16063**

**724-473-0921 ext. 245**

## MAD SCIENCE AT THE PARK

**Secret Agent Lab**

**July 17-21**  
9am-12pm  
Ages 6-11

Develop your special agent and detective skills in this super hands-on program! Uncover the science involved in evidence gathering and analysis.

Resident Fee: \$170.00  
Non-Resident Fee: \$175.00

## SOCCER SHOTS

Soccer Shots will be returning to the Park for soccer programming, character building, and fun on Thursdays from August 24 to October 5 from 5-6:50pm. Register online by visiting [www.soccershots.com/Pittsburgh](http://www.soccershots.com/Pittsburgh).

## SUMMER MOVIE SERIES

**JULY 20**

Encanto

**AUGUST 25**

The Super Mario Bros. Movie



## SHELTER RENTALS

Book your next event at the Park! Reserve one of our facilities by visiting [www.myzeliepark.org](http://www.myzeliepark.org).

*Get Connected!*

Stay up-to-date on pool closings, events, and news!



[www.myzeliepark.org](http://www.myzeliepark.org)

# Zelienople Live Music Schedule

Summer 2023

## Concerts in the Park

Zelienople Community Park  
7:00pm

July 11	The Eldorado Band
July 18	The Mazeroskis
July 25	Totally 80s
August 1	Water View Band

## Community Day

July 4

Zelienople Community Park  
Events begin at 11:00am on Main St.

12:15 PM	Spin Cycle
1:15 PM	Resurrection Band
1:45 PM	Spin Cycle
5:00 PM	Morgan Gruber
8:00 PM	Pittsburgh Philharmonic

## Open Air Market

Main Street/New Castle Street

July 6	Mike Chutz
July 13	Spin Cycle
July 27	Darren & Craig
August 3	Acoustic Eclectic
August 10	Jay Wiley
August 17	This-That & the Other Thing

## Thank You to Our Park Sponsors!

### Platinum Sponsors



HAROLD ZEIGLER  
HEATING & COOLING

### Gold Sponsors



### Silver Sponsor

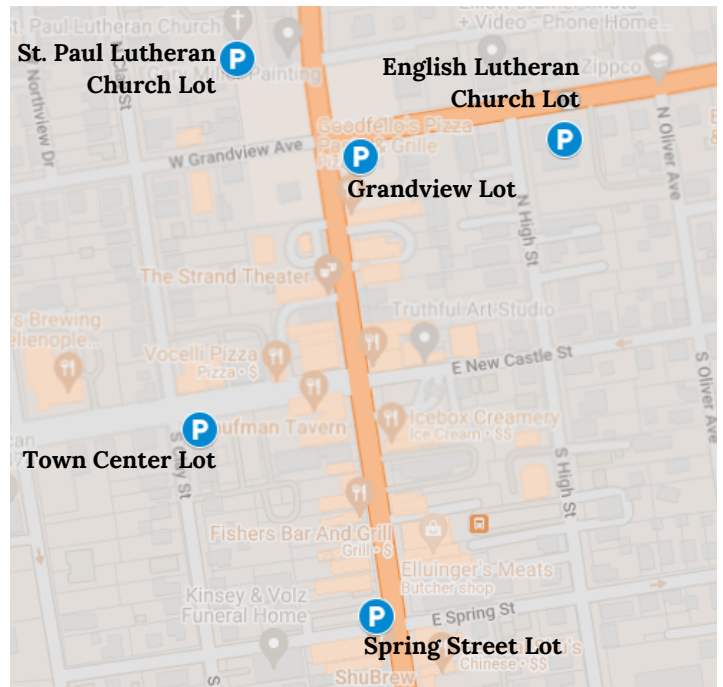


### Bronze Sponsors

Dambach Lumber & Supply  
M@C Discount  
Studio Z Yoga

# Where to Park in Zelienople

- **Town Center Lot**
- **Spring Street Lot (Spring & Main)**
- **Grandview Lot (Grandview & Main)**
- **St. Paul Lutheran Church Lot (W. Northview)**
  - No parking on Sundays from 8:00 AM to 12:00PM
- **English Lutheran Church Lot (E. Grandview)**
  - No parking on Sundays before 12:00PM
- **On-Street Parking**
  - 2 Hour Maximum Parking Time
  - Parking Monday-Saturday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
  - No parking permitted from 3:00 AM to 5:00 AM



### Zelienople public parking lot regulations:

3 Hour Maximum Parking Time  
Parking 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday-Saturday  
No limits Sunday, Borough Holidays, and all days  
5:00 AM to 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM to 3:00 AM  
No parking any day from 3:00 AM to 5:00 AM

## Zelienople Mobile App

- Report a concern
- Pay your utility bill
- Check out the Borough calendar
- View our parking map
- ...and more!



It's everything Zelienople in your pocket!

Search for "Zelienople"



# Harmony Fire District Update

Scott Garing, Fire Chief, Harmony Fire District



The Harmony Fire District has two groups of officers that run and organize the firehouse. The Board of Directors focuses on the administration, fund raising, by-laws, and policies and consists of titles like President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Director. The other side is the Line Officers who run the operations of the organization, which consists of emergency call response, training, apparatus, equipment, and their titles include Chief, Deputy Chief, Assistant Chief, Captains, and Lieutenants. Both sides of the organization work in unison and function as a well-oiled machine, which is what it takes to run an effective organization. The emergency response services provided by the organization are the most visible part, and the Line Officers are those the public sees the most. However, the Line Officers could not do what they do without the support of the Board of Directors and vice versa. In this edition, we would like to focus on the operations aspect of the firehouse and the extreme challenges the Fire District faces in the 21st century in regard to our most precious resources – volunteers and time.

**Across the nation, we continue to see a decline in volunteerism in general**, and we surely feel that same crunch. Most of the decline is not due to what people think, but it is just because of societal shifts of life. The shifts of everyday life have caused a decline in individuals' desire to volunteer. The impacts are felt from multiple income homes due to the cost of living and children in multiple sports at a time as well as a shift from an industrial mill working area to a medical and technology region. These factors have pulled people away from volunteering and have them focused on their professional career and family life and comes down to TIME.

The organization is trying to make progressive changes to be flexible on TIME and participation. We are offering training alternatives after meeting the minimum standards and incorporating a stipend staffing program. The stipend staffing program is designed to incentivize firefighters to be on station when they can, allowing it to fit their schedule while providing a small fee for their participation. By having a staffed station, we can make a difference in the TIME it takes to help you at your emergency.

Another significant hurdle we face is caused by modern construction. Fires are burning incredibly faster than they have in the past due to modern furnishing and finishes. Many household items contain some amount of petroleum-based product, causing fires to spread faster than before. In the 1990s, the average fire allowed 30 minutes to escape; now you have five minutes or less until a room is completely engulfed in fire due to the high amount of these petroleum-based household products. This has been proven through tests and science, and we recognize it as one of our largest challenges, both in training and emergency response.

Additionally, we are challenged by modern construction and neighborhood designs. The recent designs of our area have dictated that our apparatus work differently and require replacement and redesign. Our oldest engine is 20 years old and when it was built it did great things. However, we must look at how homes are constructed in our area to ensure we can be effective when attacking fires. This has caused a drastic redesign of our basic engine, focusing on apparatus that is smaller, more maneuverable, and able to provide longer hose lines to address setbacks from the road and reaching the farthest point in the house while applying the correct number of gallons per minute to extinguish the fire.



If you notice a theme -- it all comes down to TIME: time spent by our firefighters, time spent on training to be proficient so there are no delays, time spent on relocating the firehouse closer to our largest concentration of homes, time spent on program development for staffing, time spent on ensuring apparatus are designed correctly, replaced, and are ready for service, and time spent fundraising to financially support the needs and goals of the organization. We want TIME to be on our side and yours when you need us. **We owe it to all of you that we proudly protect and serve!**

# Zelienople Area Public Library Update

Amy Kellner, Adult Services Librarian, Zelienople Area Public Library



Zelienople Area Public Library is celebrating reading and learning with all kinds of adventures this summer as we explore the theme: **"All Together Now: Kindness/Friendship/Unity."** The summer reading program runs through August 5, and registration is free and open to all ages. Prizes will be awarded to kids, teens, and adults as they work toward their reading goals. We will get things started on June 21 at

6pm with a Children's Concert on the Library lawn with entertainer Tom Sieling for "All Together Now for a Tromp through the Swamp."

July's big event is a "Dog Man Party" on Monday, July 17 from 4 to 6 pm. Children ages 6+ can register to attend this crime-fighting, fur-covered, super heroic party inspired by the graphic novels. We will also welcome the Zoomobile in July with "Wonder of Wildlife." Join us at the Zelienople Community Park's James A. Ayers, Sr. Amphitheater on Thursday, July 27 at 1:30 pm for a wild time! Our Summer Finale will be a "Popsicle Party" on Saturday, August 5 from 2 to 4 pm at the Library. Finish off an activity-packed summer with yard games, popcorn, and popsicles!

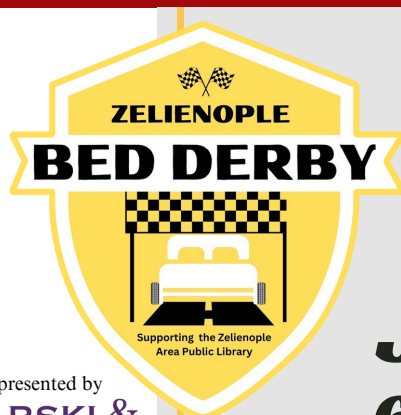
Our town is full of fantastic places and things. Explore the streets of Zelig in a summer-long scavenger hunt for teens. "Knights, Camera, Action" will be the Teen Summer Finale Event on August 5 from 5-8 pm. Special guests from Broken Plow Western PA Martial Arts will talk about martial arts and sword fighting. We will talk about how martial arts and historical sword fighting combine to create a vast community and bring people together. The event will feature live sword fighting by trained fighters. Teen Leadership Council, Teen Book Club, Adventure Night, and Tabletop Game Nights will extend throughout summer, with each group meeting monthly. Check our Facebook and website for dates, or ask at the circulation desk.

Also in the works for summer is a Care Kit Assembly Night for Foster Care Children. We will be collecting new backpacks, blankets, coloring books, toiletries, and school supplies until August 1. Come "Polka in the Park" with us as we welcome The Polkameisters on Tuesday, August 15 at 7 pm at the Zelienople Community Park James A. Ayers, Sr. Amphitheater. This is a free program for the community that all ages can enjoy.

Our regular adult programs, including Genealogy, Chess, Sign Language, Tai Chi, Memory Lane, Writer's Group, Craft Chat, and Spanish and German Hours will continue through the Summer.

## Have a question about our collections, programs, or services?

Call us at 724-452-9330, or email [zelienople@bcfls.org](mailto:zelienople@bcfls.org). We invite you this Summer to see what the Zelienople Area Public Library has to offer.



presented by  
**KARSKI &  
SPOKANE**  
ORTHODONTICS

**July 6**  
**6:30pm**  
**at the intersection of Spring  
Street and High Street**

## **What is the Zelienople Bed Derby?**

Teams of 5 participants (4 pushers, 1 rider) build beds on wheels and race through an obstacle course on High Street.

All proceeds will benefit the Zelienople Area Public Library.



# Zelienople Community Day

FOOD TRUCKS, LIVE MUSIC,  
& FIREWORKS SHOW

**JULY 4, 2023**

**ZELIENOPLE COMMUNITY PARK**  
402 E BEAVER ST  
ZELIENOPLE, PA 16063

Live entertainment thanks to  
our Star-Spangled Sponsor:



**ZELIENOPLE ROTARY PARADE**  
Main Street

11:00 AM

**SWIMMING**  
Zelienople Community Pool  
Open to non-members  
12:30-3:30pm  
\$5 entry fee

12:00 PM-  
3:30 PM

**LIVE MUSIC AT THE PARK**  
Spin Cycle

12:15 PM

Resurrection Band

1:15 PM

Spin Cycle

1:45 PM

Morgan Gruber – Local American Idol Contestant

5:00 PM

Pittsburgh Philharmonic

8:00 PM

**FIREWORKS**  
Zelienople Community Park

DUSK

FOOD TRUCKS BY:

AMBRIDGE ITALIAN VILLA  
BY THE WAYSIDE COFFEE  
DELINA'S ETHIOCAFE

JORDAN'S  
NEDAL'S GREEK FOOD

ROADRUNNER HOT DAWGS  
SWEET PEA'S SWEET TREATS

## VAU Fallen Heroes Memorial



**July 2-5, 2023**  
**Four Corners Park**

Sponsored by the  
Zelienople Historical Society

The 28 foot wide x 6 foot tall American Flag symbolizes the shape of the flag when draped on a fallen service member's casket. It is comprised of 7,000 dog tags of those who have fallen in the war on terror. There are 50 gold stars honoring all Gold Star Families nationwide. A battlefield cross is displayed in front of the flag and was sculpted from mahogany wood by veteran artist Alicia Dietz.

The flag is built and funded by veterans. It has travelled to more than 50 locations nationwide since 2018. All proceeds from its travel benefit Gold Star Family Organization and GWOT Memorial Foundation's mission to build a national memorial in Washington D.C.

## Glade Run's Family Food Truck Festival

Saturday, August 12 from 11am to 3pm

Head to Zelienople on August 12 to enjoy some of Pittsburgh's tastiest food trucks! The event also features a car cruise, vendor marketplace, bake sale, fun for the kiddos, raffles, and outdoor music. Admission and parking are free! Events will take place at Glade Run Lutheran Services, 30 Glade Run Drive, Zelienople, PA 16063. Bring the family, and come hungry! Proceeds benefit individuals served through mental health programs at Glade Run.

## Divine Grace Parish Family Festival

August 11-13, 2023

Divine Grace Parish will host its annual Family Festival at the St. Ferdinand Church location in Cranberry Township, PA. This fun-filled, 3-day community event is open to the public and offers a variety of activities and opportunities for people for all ages.

### Borough of Zelienople

111 West New Castle Street  
Zelienople, PA 16063

(724) 452-6610 (phone)  
(724) 452-6613 (fax)  
(724) 453-4299 (after hours emergencies)  
zelieborough@zoominternet.net

8:00 AM - 4:30 PM (M-F)  
Office Open 9:00 am - 4:00 PM (M - F)



[www.zelieboro.org](http://www.zelieboro.org)

