



ZELIENOPLE NEWS

Summer 2018

Borough of Zelienople

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Borough of Zelienople · 111 West New Castle Street · Zelienople, PA 16063 · www.zelieboro.org · (724) 452-6610

Main Street Project Update

By Don Pepe, Borough Manager



As you know, much has happened along the Main Street corridor for many months and now we are closing in on the completion of Phase I. I wanted to give you a brief update as to where we are and where we are heading.

Town Center Parking Lot

The Town Center parking lot part of the project is complete and in operation. Once the work on the Kaufman House is done we will be able to open the walkway and the parking lot area where

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construction vehicles and materials are located. This has been a great success. Location signage has been approved by PennDOT and will be installed when available.

Kaufman House

This project is in two parts; The exterior is being completed through Borough contract and is almost finished with the addition of the front porch area. Painting is also done except for touch up areas. This project is through grant awards and is at no cost to the Borough.

Please see *Main Street* on page 7

Borough Utility Rates Remain Unchanged in 2018

Each year the Borough of Zelienople determines whether a utility rate increase is needed for the electric and water utilities. Rates are typically adjusted based on the Borough's cost increases for electric and water. However, at various times throughout history, the Borough has opted to only pass on a portion of its cost increases to the customer in an attempt to alleviate the burden on the customer.

It was anticipated there would be an approximate

3.5% increase in electric rates and a 2.5% increase in water rates. However, due to several grant reimbursements, associated with the Main Street revitalization project being received from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, as well as through stringent budget controls, council and management have determined that there will be no utility rate increases for budget year 2018. The Borough continually balances the need to maintain infrastructure with the desire to not place a large burden on the customer.

Flooding in Zelienople

By Don Pepe, Borough Manager

On July 2, 2018, Zelienople was hit with a rain storm that dumped 2.65 inches of rain within an hours' time on our community. The creek that runs from the Community Park became swollen with waters that caused a lot of personal damage downstream. We cannot do anything about the storm of course, but we can do something about how to mitigate another rain event.

There are two things that can be done in conjunction with the Borough and our citizens. First, is a stormwater retention project upstream of the Community Park and pool that tries to capture the headwater of the stream which comes from Interstate 79. This project will be under construction within the next few weeks and is expected to be completed in late September. This project will certainly help, but will not be the complete answer to the situation.

The next step is where our citizens come in. I need to ask for your cooperation for all property

owners along that creek from the Park to High Street to not encroach on that stream bed or put debris along the stream. If you do, the water will pick up this debris and deposit it along the High Street area which then clogs the system and the waters cannot be retained within the stormwater system and flooding occurs.

I am sure that no one does this deliberately. This is not something that people think about, which is why I am bringing it to your attentions. When you encroach on the stream it narrows the path of the water which can of course cause flooding for your properties, but most of all when there is debris, grass clipping, tree limbs etc. left along the stream bed, this is picked up and causes damage to your neighbors.

Please be aware of this and we will keep an eye on it as well. For now, I want to thank you for being good citizens and for caring that Zelienople is the best it can be.

2017 Road Maintenance Project Update

Last year, our 2017 Road Maintenance Project included a double seal coat of asphalt emulsion and limestone chips. The project area included the Rosewood Plan, Timberbrook Plan, and Fairview Heights area. At the completion of this project, it became apparent that the product failed to perform as expected and the Borough was not satisfied with the results. We are also understanding of the residents' concerns and issues that resulted. We have been trying to rectify the problem.

Suit-Kote Corporation, which performed the seal coating for the Borough, has identified the problem as moisture encapsulated in the asphalt emulsion. Suit-Kote has been monitoring the moisture content regularly and the moisture levels have been dropping, once the moisture content is low enough the product will solidify and lock the limestone in place. When this happens the entire project will be reviewed and areas that have failed will be addressed. Several methods of repair or replacement are being evaluated. Ultimately, the final repairs will be made this year.

We are very sorry for the inconvenience that has resulted and we do want to correct the problem. Please bear with us a bit longer as we try to get a permanent solution for the project area.

Zelienople Community Park Events

4th Annual Mud Run

October 7th

\$35.00 per person

Registration starts at 9:00AM

Run starts at 10:00AM

Are you ready for the challenge? And who doesn't like to get a little dirty? Join us at the Zelienople Park for a family mud run with 15 obstacles including tires, haystacks, pools of mud, and more. Walk or run with your family on our 3 mile course. This is a family event for ages 3 and up. Awards and food to follow.

Register at www.eventbrite.com/Zelienople Mud Run.

Adult Monster Mash Bash

October 27th

\$25.00 per person /BYOB

Location: TBD

Adult 21 and over party. Admission includes a fiendish feast of phantasmic foods and a bevy of batty beverages (bring something to share if you dare!). BYOB is permitted. Tables can be reserved for groups of 10 or more. Gads of ghoulish prizes for many costume categories.

For ticket inquiries visit www.myzeliepark.org or www.eventbrite.com/Monster Mash Bash

2018 Zelig On Tap

Saturday, October 13th

Sip. Munch. Jam.

Zelig Park

Two Sessions and New this year....

VIP Section!

24 Brewers and Counting.

Full day of Great Music.

Food from local vendors available.

\$40 presale/ \$60 VIP section/ \$10 Concert Admission only

More information and tickets on eventbrite.com



Zelig Pool Commemorative Ornament

As most of you know, we will be saying good-bye to an old friend, the swimming pool. With the help of Tom Pollard Designs, we have created a beautiful commemorative ornament of the pool. This will be the first in an annual series. The cost is \$20.00.

For information contact:

Laurie at (724) 452-0231 or

zelienoplecommunitypark@gmail.com

Skate Park Fundraiser

September 8th

7:00 PM

Join us we wind down the summer concert series with our annual skate park fundraiser.

Major Morgan will take the stage as we raise money for this great cause. Raffle baskets, food trucks, a 50/50, and more will all be available!

Adaptive Playground Update

The final piece of the first phase of adaptive equipment has been ordered and will be installed this fall. A special thank you goes out to the Zoelle Family in honor of their son, Caden, Dr. Mark Marion and Marion Smiles for Life, The Rotary Club, and Butler County Parks for making the adaptive playground a reality in Zelig Park. This will be an ongoing project offering a variety of fun for all who visit.

Zelienople Borough 2017 Volunteer of the Year

By Don Pepe, Borough Manager

The Borough started the volunteer of the year award program in 2014 to honor outstanding individuals who as a volunteer, has served the Borough of Zelienople with dedication and distinction. These fine people give their time, talents and efforts to serve the citizens of this Borough and the surrounding area, to make people's lives easier, eliminate suffering, and improve the quality of life.

This year the award goes to Donna Zeigler who was nominated for her outstanding contributions and dedication to our community.

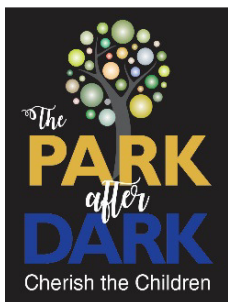
- Donna has served not only their church, but the community as a whole by spearheading the very successful "Miracle on Main Street" event that was presented for the first time this past Christmas.
- She has also started a program for addicts and families called, "A Place of Refuge"

where dinner and a program is provided at no cost, to those individuals and families suffering from addiction.

- Donna also provides home visits to the elderly by providing meals, flowers, and showing God's love.
- Donna provides all this and more with a humble heart and a kind spirit.

For these reasons, Zelienople Borough Council is honored to present Donna Zeigler as our 2017 Volunteer of the Year.

We thank Jean Hutchinson from the Harmony-Zelienople United Methodist Church for nominating Donna this year and we encourage all from our community to nominate the person they feel should be recognized for their contributions to Zelienople when we open the nominations for the 2018 award sometime later this year.



Food, Live Music and Auction at Glade Run Benefit

The Park after Dark is a casual evening of food, music, and fun to be held on Saturday, September 8 from 6-10pm at the Glade Run Sensory Playground. The park will be lit

with twinkle lights and candles and guests will enjoy food stations featuring famous chef inspired foods, live music, and a silent auction. Proceeds benefit children and young adults with autism as well as individuals and families served through Glade Run's mental health programs. This is an outdoor event. Tents and outdoor seating will be available. Tickets are \$75. Don't miss this spectacular evening! For more information or reservations, contact Glade Run Foundation at 724-452-4453, ext. 1277.

Glade Run Hosts Free Polar Express Event at The Strand Theater

Friends and family are invited to kick off the holiday season at a FREE, private showing of the holiday classic, The Polar Express, on Saturday, December 1 at The Strand Theater, Zelienople. Little ones are encouraged to wear their pajamas and all guests will enjoy complimentary refreshments and a visit with Santa Claus! Choose from two showing times, either 11:00 am or 2:00 pm. While there is no admission fee, a donation of a gift card or toy for a Glade Run child or family in need is requested. Items should be unwrapped and will be collected at the door. Visit www.gladerun.org for more information. Seating is limited and reservations are required. This event fills quickly. Reserve seats by calling Cheryl Martin at 724-452-4453 x1277 or by email at cmartin@gladerun.org.

Harmony Fire District



The Harmony Fire District is a 501c(3) nonprofit VOLUNTEER organization. We raise funds through a variety of methods. Fundraising funds make up half of our operating budget every year.

These funds pay for life saving equipment that we use when there is an emergency. We commonly get the question of how can you support us and our efforts?

Annual Mailing



We mail out thousands of donation requests; they go to every home in our service area. These mailers request donations from each home owner to support our operations.

Unfortunately, we only receive a very small percentage of these back. You should have just received a donation request in your mail. If you did not, please contact us or you can simply write a check and mail it into us.

AMAZON Smiles

Recently the fire district learned that amazon.com is donating to charities. Anyone is able to donate to us by simply changing your account and all purchases to smile.amazon.com. You can use your existing account to sign in and you can select the Harmony Fire District as your charity. The items available and prices are the same as the regular version of Amazon; however, a percentage of your purchase is automatically donated to the Fire District. Our account number is 02-0597616. PLEASE consider doing this, it is easy to do and donates money to the organization effortlessly.



Annual Raffle



The organization does an annual vehicle raffle on Main Street in Zelenople. This year's raffle will take place on September 22nd, 2018. We



Don't forget to get your raffle tickets! First prize is a Chevy Pick-up truck, second prize is a Polaris side-by-side. The raffle takes place on Main Street on Saturday September 22nd. All proceeds benefit the Harmony Fire District.

are raffling off a Chevy pick-up truck for first place and a Polaris side-by-side for second place. Tickets are \$5.00 a piece and go off of a random drawing. Stop by Main & Grandview on just about any day with nice weather, visit your favorite HFD firefighter, or stop in the local shops around the area to get your chance to win.

Address Signs

One of the most fundamental things you can do is clearly mark your home for all public safety agencies. We sell red reflective address signs that can go horizontal or vertical on your home and can also be fixed to a post or your mailbox post. Email the fire district at harmonyfiredistrict@gmail.com or call us at (724) 452-4046 to obtain a sign.



Thank you for learning about ways you can support your fire district. We appreciate the support that we receive from the residents and look forward to a great year of fundraising!

Library News

By Maggie Boylan, Library Director



It has been a busy summer at the Zelenople Area Public Library, with fun and educational activities for all ages and there is more to come this fall and winter. The 2018 Summer Reading Program theme was “Libraries Rock,” and special activities included concerts, STEM activities, Escape Room challenge called “Locked in the Library,” and special collaborative events at the Zelenople Community Park. A total of 208 registered for the Summer Program at the Library including infants, toddlers, preschoolers, elementary students, teens, and adults. The 2019 Summer Reading Program theme is “A Universe of Stories” focusing on Space and celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the first man on the moon. If you are a community member with a background related to space we would like to hear from you as we plan for next year!

This summer the Library held a reading, viewing, and discussion program for adults on topics related to science, technology, and history, and how these issues relate to our local culture, community, and environment. The “Pushing the Limits” discussion program will conclude on August 25th. Join us for a discussion on “Expanding Connections”, which is focusing on the influence of communication, technology, and heritage. Come by the Library to borrow your copy of *Thunderstruck*, Eric Larson’s gripping historical tale of the race to invent wireless communication, which will be a basis for a portion of the discussion. Reading the book beforehand isn’t required though, a human interest video and a local guest presenter will give plenty of additional ground for discussion, making it easy for anyone to participate. Pushing the Limits was made possible from a grant from the National Science Foundation. The series will continue next summer with a second round of topics.

The next presenter for our **Zelenople Library Presents**. . . Speaker Series will be Colonial and Early American Historian Carl Robertson, Ph.D, speaking on George Washington’s first mission. He will speak at the Library on Thursday, November 1st at 7 pm. Tickets for the program are \$8 for adults. Tickets for ages 12 and under are \$5. Five free tickets are available to local high school students. The first speaker lined up for the 2019 Zelenople Library Presents Speaker Series include John L. Haigh Sr. the former chief steward of Air Force One who served four presidents, astronauts and other dignitaries during his career. He is the author of *Air Force One: an Honor, Privilege, and Pleasure to Serve*. His program will be Thursday, March 14, 2019. Also returning to speak at the Library will be author Heather Terrell who writes as Marie Benedict and whose upcoming 2019 book is *The Only Woman in the Room*, the fictionalized story of Hedy Lamarr. We also hope to include Jonathan Auxier, whose books include the children’s titles, *Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes* and *The Night Gardener*. Zelenople Library Presents is a fundraiser for the Zelenople Area Public Library. Tickets are available at the Library or on eventbrite.com.

Look forward to our regularly scheduled adult and teen programs to continue including tai chi, yoga, genealogy, adult coloring night, chess club, teen anime club, and Spanish conversation hour. New programs will include Adult Anime Club, German Hour, and Board Game Nights. Adult Anime Club will have its first meeting Thursday, September 13 at 7pm. Our great lineup of fall/winter/spring children’s programming will also be continuing with story hour, Pages and Paws, block play, and lego days. Follow our Facebook page or check our website for programming dates and times.

A letter recently went out to the residents in our community service area telling residents about a great offer the Library recently received, an offer that will help pay off a business loan that was taken out three

Please see *Library* on page 8

Main Street from page 1

The interior work being done through our partner Pat Boylan, which includes the two stairway towers and the elevator tower, is still progressing. There was an inordinate amount of structure integrity work to be replaced before the buildout. That has been completed and the interior work is progressing nicely. While I don't have a definite time for completion, I have been told that the open date for the restaurant is to be in November. We will know more about the 2nd and 3rd floor later this summer. Please stay tuned as we will update you through various media.

Main Street Corridor from New Castle Street to Spring Street.

The construction is almost complete. Now all utility lines need pulled underground and tested. All hookups to affected properties will also be made. When that is completed, then the new Light poles can be installed and all of the finish concrete work can be done. Then all of the stamped concrete can be sealed which should make the color pop. Permanent locations of trees or shrubs will also be made as well as the furniture, trash cans, and bike rack locations. The remaining feature, which is

unfortunately out of our hands, is the delivery of the new traffic system, poles, and lights. We are not sure when these will be available from the manufacturer. It may seem for a period of time that there is no action as you have been seeing and that is correct to a point. Now we are in the final steps, which do not have a daily presence from the contractors.

Phase II

The next phase will be addressed in a future article once the details are clearer. Currently the engineering is being completed and final funding obtained. The project area is from Spring Street to Beaver Street.

Summary

The work done to date has been impressive and even though it may seem slow at times due to the complicated nature of our funding sources and the local match. The work itself also has had challenges as you would expect in a town that has a lot of history and older architecture and infrastructure. Bottom line is the results should be well worth the time and effort put into this renovation project. Many thanks go out to all of the players both public and private who have made this effort possible. With their cooperation and support this project has become a reality.



At the August 13, 2018 Zelenople Borough Council Meeting, Zelenople employee Officer Melanie Dodson received a service award from the Borough. Officer Dodson has been employed by the Borough for 20 years.

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Library from page 6

years ago to pay for the library's LED lights (a loan for the amount of \$19,000.00). An anonymous donor has come forward to match, dollar-for-dollar, any contributions made by community members toward the library's business loan debt, this offer will reduce the library's portion down to \$9,500.00. Library Board President Gregg Semel and Vice President Carolyn Skillman would like to thank all of you who have already contributed. Look for a fundraising tracker to be placed on our website soon so you can track the progress of the campaign. Donations can be made in person at the Library, by mail, or from our website. The Library's mailing address is 227 S. High St, Zelienople PA 16063. Our website can be found at www.zelienoplelibrary.org. You can also donate via PayPal on the website. For more information about any Library events or programs or questions about how we can serve you call us at (724) 452-9330.

The Board of Trustees of the Library is looking for residents who are interested in community service and in this case, serving on the Library Board. If interested, please contact Board President Gregg Semel at (724) 452-9330.

NEW AFTER HOURS CONTACT INFORMATION

The Borough of Zelienople after hours contact number has changed. To report service interruptions after regular business hours, call (724) 453-4299. The Borough is not liable in the case of a service interruption, but agrees to restore service as quickly as possible.

The after-hours phone number listed on the back of the utility bills is out of service.