



Spring



March, 2015

**BOROUGH OF ROBESONIA**  
**“The Garden Spot of the Lebanon Valley”**

**Robesonia Borough Hall: 75 South Brooke Street Robesonia, PA 19551**

**Phone:** (610) 693-3474 **Fax:** (610) 693-5799 **E-mail:** [RobesoniaBorough@comcast.net](mailto:RobesoniaBorough@comcast.net)

**Website:** [www.robsoniaboro.org](http://www.robsoniaboro.org) Like us on Facebook!

**Office Hours:** Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Friday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

**MAYOR:** Randy Gartner

**2015 COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Abby Wertz, President

Rodney Soliday

William Langjahr, Jr.

Michael Kocher

Harvey Marshall, Vice President

Robert Pierce

Tony Wirebach

Grayson Ziegler, Jr. Council Member

**MANAGER:** Lisa Heilman

**STREETS & MAINTENANCE:** Garry Degler

**TAX COLLECTOR:** Marshall Reynolds, (610)693-6640

**ENGINEER:** David Bright, SSM (610)621-2000

**SOLICITOR:** Andrew George, Kozloff-Stoudt (610)670-5225

**PLUMBING , BUILDING, ELECTRICAL, MECHANICAL, ACCESSIBILITY INSPECTOR :**

Comprehensive Inspection Agency, Jerry Farro: (570)385-3010

**ZONING OFFICER:** Nancy Johnson, Technicon Enterprises, Inc. II

**ASSISTANT ZONING OFFICER:** Frank Schnee, 610-693-5457

(Simple zoning permits for sheds, fences, pools)

**ROBESONIA COMMUNITY LIBRARY – (610) 693-3264**

Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:30 AM to 8:00 PM

Friday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM and Saturday 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM,

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:** Mike Palm

**EMERGENCIES: 911**

**BERKS RADIO(Non-Emergency):** 610-655-4911

**Borough Council Meetings**

**1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the Month**

**7:30 PM at the Borough Hall**

*The officials of the Borough of Robesonia **WELCOME** all the new families that have chosen Robesonia as their place of residence. We hope you will support our Borough and use its many facilities.*

**At the Borough Hall you can:**

Pay your sewer and trash bills, apply for building and zoning permits, pick up voter registration forms, Borough maps and dog license applications. The Borough issues one recycling container per property. We do not replace stolen or lost lids or wheels. **If you move from the property, the recycling container must remain there.** Trash pick-up is every Monday. Recycling pick-up is every Thursday. Large or bulk items may be contracted separately with Kreitzer Sanitation at 1-866-573-4893.



**FROM THE  
MAYOR'S DESK  
MAYOR  
RANDY GARTNER**

Robesonia is **NOT** a gun free zone

In the past few years there have been some mass shootings across the country. The one thing that they all have in common is that they occurred in "Gun free zones". That means that law abiding citizens could not carry a gun to protect themselves. Of course these "Gun Free Zones" didn't deter crazy people from murdering a lot of good people. Forty years ago, Pennsylvania passed a law that said only the state had the authority to regulate firearms to keep the laws. However, some cities and municipalities decided to violate the state law and passed ordinances banning guns from parks, buildings and other locations. Now they are being sued and many, rather than facing a lawsuit, have rescinded their ordinances. Robesonia doesn't have to worry about that. If you are a law abiding citizen who has a concealed carry permit, you can carry your firearm anywhere within the borough limits. For everyone's safety, make sure you have taken firearms training and carry your weapon in a safe manner. We have heard from those on the left that more people carrying guns would lead to more gun violence. However, over the last 20 years, more states have issued concealed carry permits, passed stand your ground laws and expanded the Castle Doctrine. During the same time, crime rates have dropped in almost every category including murder which proves that the left's fears didn't materialize. Know your rights and know your responsibilities.

We want to thank all the volunteers that make Robesonia a great place. Robesonia has many great volunteer organizations. The Fire Company responds to fires, accidents and calls for assistance at all hours of the day hundreds of times a year. The RCA sponsors the Easter Egg Hunt and Life begins at 75 Banquet. The Street Fair Committee raises money to put on the Street Fair every June. It costs over \$12,000 to hold this event. All the entertainment and fireworks are free to the public. The Friends of the Furnace collects and displays the history of Robesonia and The Robesonia Furnace in their museum. The Library Board and Friends of the Library raise funds for all the great programs the library offers free of charge to the citizens of our area. The Lions Club, The Rotary Club, The Boy Scouts are all great organizations and are always looking for new members, so if you want to see these things continue, then think

about volunteering. And if you can't volunteer, they can always use donations to help them continue their great works.

The Robesonia Furnace has a great museum. If anyone is interested in visiting the museum or taking a tour of the furnace ruins, or want someone to give a presentation to your organization on the furnace, call me at 484-955-7381. If you would like to join the Friends of the Robesonia Furnace, send a letter along with your name, address and e-mail address to Friends of the Furnace, PO Box 162, Robesonia, Pa. It's \$10 for a one year membership or \$100 for a lifetime membership. We put out two newsletters a year which are included as a part of your membership.



**Western Berks Regional Police Department-  
(Chief William Schlichter)**

As the warm spring weather approaches, Western Berks Regional Police Department wants to remind you of some tips to keep yourself and your home safe during the spring and summer months.

1. Always keep your home doors and windows locked when you leave, even if it's just for a short period of time.
2. Secure all lawn and gardening equipment in your garage/shed, and keep the door closed and locked. Never leave your garage/shed open and unattended.
3. Always secure your bicycles.
4. Be cautious of solicitors or contractors who offer to repair your home at "deep discount" and/or who request cash up front to complete the work.
5. Don't allow mail or newspapers to build up in your mailbox or on your porch.
6. If you are going on vacation, please contact the Western Berks Regional Police Department for a vacation form (also available at the Robesonia Borough office) and while you are away Officers will check your home.
7. Always be aware of your surroundings and report any suspicious activity to the police department.



## THE WORD ON THE STREETS.....

Street Supervisor Garry Degler

### STREET CLEANING

Streets will be cleaned in spring. We will attempt to post the streets the night prior to sweeping. When the street sweeper is seen or heard on your street, please move your vehicles. Also, let your neighbors know! This saves us the time and effort of having to "re-sweep". Thank you for your cooperation!

### STREET CRACK SEALING

We will be crack sealing several streets April 20-27 (weather permitting). Streets will be posted, the day before sealing, one side at a time. Your cooperation in helping us get this done is greatly appreciated!

### SPRING CLEAN-UP

2015 Spring Clean-Up will be held on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mark these dates on your calendars since we only have one clean up a year! Due to the rising disposal costs of Spring Clean-Up, the Borough Council of Robesonia has declared the following:

- ◆ All materials to be disposed of **must be delivered** to the Borough Garage located at 210 S. Elm St. by the individual.
- ◆ Confirmation of residency (identification) must be provided.
- ◆ Following is a list of charges for disposal:
  - ❖ Mattresses, boxsprings & stuffed furniture \$10.00
  - ❖ Major appliances \$20.00
  - ❖ Refrigerators/ Freezers \$35.00
  - ❖ Air Conditioners \$10.00
- ◆ **NO Tires – NO Toxic Waste**
- ◆ All fees will be collected at the Borough Garage and are payable with cash, check or money order only.
- ◆ The Borough has the right to reject any excessive quantity of disposable material.

**NOTICE:** When purchasing tires, insist that your dealer dispose of the replaced ones. No toxic waste, such as oil-based paint, etc. will be accepted. If you have any questions, please call the Borough Office at (610) 693-3474.

**REMINDER:** Effective January 24, 2013, The Pennsylvania Covered Device Recycling Act requires that all consumers not dispose of covered devices, such as computers, laptops, monitors, televisions, etc, with their trash. Trash haulers are no longer able to take these devices.

The Borough will no longer be able to accept these devices at Spring Clean-up.

In order to dispose of electronics, tires, hazardous waste, etc., please contact the Berks County Solid Waste Authority at 610-478-6362 to find out dates/times you can drop off those items.



## What's Happening at Your Library

### The Orphan Train Movement 1854-1921

Hear the first-hand account of  
**Oliver Nordmark**  
Presented by his granddaughter  
**Donna N. Aviles**, author  
**Monday, March 9**  
**At 6:30 PM in the**  
**Robesonia Borough Hall**  
**75 S Brooke St, Robesonia**

Sponsored by:

Robesonia Community Library  
Wernersville Public Library  
Womelsdorf Community Library  
(Free Program)

**Friends of**

### **Robesonia Community Library**

The Friends of the Robesonia Community Library is a non-profit voluntary organization to promote and support the Robesonia Community Library.



## Books, Baked Goods & Botanicals Sale

**More info? 610-693-3264**

Saturday,

May 9, 2015

9am-1pm

Robesonia Borough Hall

75-A South Brooke Street

Sponsored by the Friends of  
Robesonia Community Library



**ROBESONIA MEN'S  
GOLF LEAGUE  
ATTENTION  
GOLFERS!!!**

This is an open invitation to any male golfer with a Robesonia mailing address (you don't have to live in the Borough to qualify) to play in the **Robesonia Golf League**. This league has been in operation for over fifty years and has been an important part of summer for many Robesonia hackers. It's a great night of fun! **Sign up now as a Regular player (as positions are available) or a substitute. This season, more openings for Regular players are available than have been for many years. Being a great golfer or having a low handicap or average is not a requirement!** Players are classified by their average and present league averages range from low of 70 to high of 110. The weekly format is match play with a playoff at the end of the season to determine the team champion. The league plays on Monday afternoon/evenings (must tee off by 5pm) and runs from the end of April through August. The league plays at Lebanon Valley Golf Course near Myerstown (the greens fee and cart rental are priced very affordably). You must be out of high school to play and must be reliable in attendance if selected as a Regular player. If you are interested in joining or would like more information, call Steve Bright at (610) 693-6420.



**GIRL SCOUT  
NEWS**

Thank you to everyone who bought cookies this year during our annual cookie sale. We also got a good number of donations for our servicemen on active duty – thank you!

The girls had an exciting 'Race Day' a few weeks ago during our 'Powderpuff Derby'. Girls built their cars from a kit along with their family members and troop leaders. On race day they went flying down the track to determine whose was faster. The cars were also judged for the girl's decorating skills in several different categories.

The girls will also be attending our annual World Thinking Day. This day is set aside for girls to think

about other Girl Scouts and Girl Guides around the world and also other people and cultures around the world. This year's theme is peace.

With spring right around the corner, the girls are also looking forward to going camping. This year they will be visiting the Hawk Mountain Scout Sanctuary for a change of pace. They will be doing fishing, boating, archery, confidence course and a Saturday night swim party.

**TAXPAYER REMINDERS**

Hello everyone! County property tax bills will be arriving in the mail March 1<sup>st</sup>. The discount period runs from March through April followed by the flat rate period in May and June.

**Hours this year –**

March 5	10 AM to Noon at my home
April 20	10 AM to Noon at the Boro office
April 23	10 AM to Noon at the Boro office
April 24	5 PM to 7 PM at my home
April 27	10 AM to Noon at the Boro office
April 29	10 AM to Noon at the Boro office
April 30	5 PM to 7 PM at my home
June 30	10 AM to Noon at my home

If the hours do not fit your schedule, you can also mail your payment to me –

Marshall Reynolds  
276 S. Church St.  
Robesonia, PA 19551

You can also drop off your payment at my house – I have a white mailbox by my front door for tax drop-offs. Enclose a self addressed and stamped envelope if you would like a receipt.

If you have any questions or concerns, you can call me at 610-693-6640.



**CHURCH † NEWS**

**TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**108 South Robeson Street**  
**Robesonia, PA 19551**  
**610-693-6062**

**Palm Sunday Services:**

Saturday April 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm and Sunday April 29<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 & 10:45am.

Parade of Palms at 10:15am on Sunday.

**EASTER EGG HUNT** – (rain or shine) for children up to grade 6 – Saturday March 28<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

### Lent and Easter Services:

April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Maundy Thursday Worship 7:00pm

April 3<sup>rd</sup> – Good Friday Worship 7:00pm

Easter Worship - Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm

Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup> Sunrise Service at 6:00am,

Festival Worship at 8:00, 9:15, & 10:45am

**Ministerium Lenten Worship & Lunches:** Once again the Conrad Weiser Ministerium will sponsor a **noon** worship service and a light lunch during Lent. The service and meal will last about one hour, so if you need to return to work you may do so, or stay and enjoy added fellowship. A free-will offering will be taken to benefit the Conrad Weiser Area Ministerium.

**Mar. 4 – at St. Paul's UCC, Robesonia**

**Mar. 11 – at St. John's (Hain's), Wernersville**

**Mar. 18 – at Trinity Lutheran, Robesonia**

**Mar. 25 – at St. Francis, Robesonia**

*Save This Date - Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015*

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Trinity Fellowship Golf Tournament**

Supports Jack Frost Scholarship Fund for Conrad Weiser High School seniors

4-Person Scramble at Green Acres Golf Course

For more information or to register your foursome – contact the church office!

### **Save the Dates - Trinity's Vacation Bible School**

July 20<sup>th</sup> through July 24<sup>th</sup> (8:45am to noon) - open to all children ages four through 6<sup>th</sup> grade. No charge with early registration.

### **Come to the Circus**

The *Lewis & Clark Circus* will come to Robesonia on June 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Look for more information on free children's tickets soon. Fun for all ages.

### **Trinity's Senior Group Bus Trips**

We call ourselves ABO (Anything but Old!). This group is for adults age 55 and older. We like to go on trips to enjoy dinner out and some kind of entertainment. We like fellowship – spending time with our friends and making new friends. Join us in our travels; you do not have to be a Trinity member to participate.

Here are our upcoming trips:

March 5<sup>th</sup> – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse (Transportation, dinner and a show for \$80 per person.)

#### ***"Abie's Irish Rose"***

April 29<sup>th</sup> – Travel to Kitchen Kettle, Intercourse, PA (for shopping) and Bird-in-Hand for lunch and a show for \$80 per person. ***"Josiah for President"***

June 2<sup>nd</sup> – Amish Experience Theater, Amish Country Homestead, Lunch at Plain & Fancy, American

Music Theater for ***"Inspire"***. (Transportation included for \$105 per person.)

October 8<sup>th</sup> – Dutch Apple Dinner Theater  
(Transportation, dinner and a show for \$85 per person.)  
***"Church Basement Ladies Mighty Fortress"***

### **St. Paul's United Church of Christ**

**301 West Penn Avenue**

610-621-5770

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

Website: [www.Sprucc.org](http://www.Sprucc.org)

Email: [office@Sprucc.org](mailto:office@Sprucc.org)

Off-street Parking

Handicapped Accessible

Worship 10:30, Sunday School for all ages 9:15

Visitors Always Welcome

### **Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>**

Mid-week Lenten service-12:00

Luncheon served after the service

### **Sunday, March 8<sup>th</sup>**

Girl Scout Sunday

### **Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>**

Easter Sale

9:00am-1:00pm in Fellowship Hall

Homemade candies and foods

### **Sunday, April 5<sup>th</sup>-Easter Sunday**

New this year! Sunrise Service

Watch our board in the front of the church for more information

Easter Service 10:30

Communion at both services

### **Soup and Such**

Free hot meal served from 4:00-6:00pm

Provided last Thursday of the month

(March 26, April 30 and May 28)

### **St. Paul's UCC's Clothing Closet**

Same day as Soup and Such from 3:30-6:00pm

Free children's clothes -infants through youth size 16  
One free bag per child (provided by church), additional items \$ .25.

For information call 6106215770

### **ST. DANIEL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

**480 Big Spring Road**

**(610) 693-5145**

**[www.stdaniels.com](http://www.stdaniels.com)**

Rev. Rebecca Knox, Pastor

Worship 9:00am, Sunday School 10:15am

Ample Parking and Handicapped Accessible

All ages are welcome and invited!



**Wednesdays During Lent (March 4, 11, 18 and 25)**  
**Evening Meal at 6:00pm**  
**Worship and Bible Study at 7:00pm**

The **Western Berks Free Medical Clinic** is located at St. Daniel's. It is open Wednesday evenings. Please call to schedule an appointment: 610-693-6207.



**DON'T FORGET  
TO VOTE!!  
MAY 19, 2015**

The last day to register to vote in the primary election is April 20, 2015. Registration/change forms are available at the Borough Hall.

### **WOMELSDORF-ROBESONIA JOINT AUTHORITY NEWS**

The Womelsdorf- Robesonia Joint Water Authority is proud to announce our new website! Please visit [www.wrja.info](http://www.wrja.info) to view current rates and fees, consumer confidence report, pay your bill\* and more.

Check back often for updates on current and upcoming projects and history of the authority.

*\*Online bill pay is through a third party and processing fees apply.*



### **ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION**

**Friday, April 24, 2015  
9:00 AM**

Come celebrate Robesonia's 25th year as a Tree City USA Honoree! The type of tree and location are still to be determined. Call Boro Hall for details.

Our own John Ravert, Berks County Conservation District Manager and Troy Withers, of the PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry, will be speakers and Mayor Randy Gartner will read the annual proclamation! Hope to see you there!



**MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCE** – On Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM a brief memorial remembrance ceremony will be held at the Henry P. Robeson Memorial Park to honor the very special men and women of our community who gave their lives for our great country while serving in our armed forces. Everyone is invited to attend this ceremony to show respect and gratitude for the sacrifices these heroes made. Children also are welcome and especially invited. The event is being coordinated by the Patriotic Order Sons of America (POS of A) Washington Camp 113, the Robesonia Borough Council, and Mayor Randy Gartner. The park is located at the corner on Penn Avenue and North Robeson Street, at the traffic signal.

### **Patriotic Order Sons of America, Camp 113**

The Patriotic Order Sons of America, or POS of A, is an organization that promotes patriotism and honoring the American flag in local communities. Robesonia is served by POS of A Camp 113, which was granted its charter in 1869 by the national office. Camp members meet monthly at the Furnace Office (owned by the Breininger family), which is across the street from the Robesonia Furnace Mansion along Freeman Street, on the last Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.

We will have an Open House of the Furnace Office on several occasions over the coming months. The first will be held from 9 AM to Noon the same Saturday in May as the fishing rodeo along the Furnace Creek. The next Open House will coincide with the Friends of the Robesonia Furnace's Summer craft show in August. Everyone is welcome to visit the office to see the splendid architecture of this historic building, as well as the Camp's extensive memorabilia.

If you are interested in joining the POS of A or in learning more about our service organization, please contact Camp President Barry Lutz

([lutzcb70@comcast.net](mailto:lutzcb70@comcast.net)), Secretary Charlie Reidler ([chucky1133@verizon.net](mailto:chucky1133@verizon.net)), or Dave Bright ([david.bright@ssmgroup.com](mailto:david.bright@ssmgroup.com)).



## 2015 SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM

This Summer, Robesonia is pleased to once again offer its Summer Playground Program, which is open to any child between the ages of 5 and 12.

Participants will enjoy games, crafts, and other fun activities.

Last year, they also enjoyed a number of off-site activities, including trips to The Works in Wyomissing and passes to the Robesonia Pool. While there is no cost to register, select activities may require a small fee. Registration forms will be distributed at the start of the program.

Playground starts Monday on the first week after the end of the Conrad Weiser School year has ended; barring extended school year due to more snow days, this will be Monday, June 15th at 9:00 a.m.. Playground hours will be M-F from 9:00 a.m. to noon, and from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.. The program runs for eight weeks through August 7th.

Questions or comments about this worthwhile program can be directed at Tony Wirebach of the Robesonia Borough Council; call him at 610-693-1177 (office), 484-577-1340 (cell), or send him an email at [tonyw@evgrfx.com](mailto:tonyw@evgrfx.com). You can also contact the Borough Manager, Lisa Heilman for more information.

## ROBESONIA SWIMMING POOL ASSOCIATION

It's never too early to start thinking about summer..... and a refreshing dip in your friendly neighborhood pool. The Robesonia Swimming Pool has been serving the community since the early 1960's and has been enjoyed by several generations of families in the Robesonia area.

The Robesonia Swimming Pool Association is a privately run organization. What that means is that the pool is owned by the members, operated by a board of volunteer members, and receives no formal financial support from any municipality. The Robesonia Pool is funded using membership fees, guest fees, fundraisers, and donations of time and money. However, in some years, it can be difficult to cover all of the operating costs, especially during cool or rainy weather patterns. **Please consider joining the Robesonia Pool today!**

On Saturday May 2nd, the Roby Pool in conjunction with Wertz Orthodontics, will be holding a Spring Carnival in the Wertz parking lot located at South Freeman Street in Robesonia. The event will run from 3 to 6pm and will feature food, games, vendors, music, and fun for all. Please come and enjoy this event!! The rain date is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The RSPA is also a qualified 501c3 entity under the IRS tax code. Contributions made to the pool may be tax deductible and would greatly benefit the pool. Please consider making a much needed contribution today!

Our community pool will only be successful if enough of the members give their time and effort to support it. Have you taken your turn? There are currently several open board positions that need to be filled. The board needs to be completely filled in order to manage the pool efficiently. There are also many other opportunities to help with events such as swim meets, fundraisers, splash parties, and "work" parties (we also have some fun doing these). Please call Steve Bright at (610) 693-6420 to volunteer or ask questions. **GET INVOLVED!!**

### OTHER DETAILS:

**Membership** – Information is available on our website regarding membership fees. We offer several membership options including Family, Single, Guest Passes, and a variety of other options to choose from.

**Swim Lessons** - Swim lessons will again be held at the pool. Fees and dates will be announced in the spring after Memorial Day. Information will also be available on the website.

**Parties** - Consider holding your graduation, birthday, and other special parties at the pool.

**Events** - As always, the pool will be hosting various events throughout the summer such as Teen Night, Kids Night, and Holiday Game Days. Look for details about these and other events as the summer unfolds.

Please visit our website at [www.robypool.org](http://www.robypool.org) for other information.

### **COMMUNITY YARDSALE COMMITTEE**

Hi! I am a town resident and am looking to get a Community Yard Sale Committee together. I know someone had put an ad in local newspapers last year, so if that person would like to join that would be great! We would run the regular one (the third Saturday in June) and I would like to consider a another one right before school starts this year. I noticed many town residents have more than one of their own each year, but if we worked together it would help all of us sell more. If you would like to help I've set up an email and you can contact me there at [Robesoniyardsale@hotmail.com](mailto:Robesoniyardsale@hotmail.com). Hope to hear from you!



**RCA  
EASTER EGG HUNT  
SATURDAY  
April 4, 2015  
1:00 PM  
Rain or Shine!**



**ANNUAL TROUT RODEO!!**

**Sponsored by  
Robesonia Fish & Game**

**SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015**

**SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2015**

**Open to Conrad Weiser students  
ages 0-15**

**Registration begins at 7AM**

**Fishing begins at 9AM**

**Free hot dogs & soda for the kids!**

**Prizes! Prizes! Prizes!**