



Fall

September, 2016

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
Website: www.robesoniaboro.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

2016 COUNCIL MEMBERS

Abby Wertz, President
Rodney Soliday
William Langjahr, Jr.
Frank Schnee
Harvey Marshall, Vice President
Michael Martin
Tony Wirebach

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)670-2552

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	1st Monday of the Month	7:30 PM at the Borough Hall
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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 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 County Wide Sanitation at 1-866-573-4893.



JACK FROST PARADE

Sunday, November 6th

Trinity Lutheran Church will be sponsoring the ever bigger and better **2016 Jack Frost Parade** this year on Sunday, November 6th at 3PM. Bands, floats, dance troupes and giant helium balloons! If you are part of a group, club or organization, talk to us now about entering your group (or float!) in the parade. The parade is expected to stage at the CW Middle School and end at Trinity Lutheran Church. The parade will travel west on Penn Avenue from the school to South Church Street where it will turn left, then left again onto West Ruth Avenue where it will pass in front of the Borough Building (and Judge's stand). We will need more volunteers than ever to help with the parade, so watch for more details! **This year we are hoping to collect ONE TON of food for the Conrad Weiser Food Pantry as well as letters to Santa!** We expect this to be a fun event as we have been working hard to get sponsors and entertainment. Please plan on coming out and supporting this family-fun event!



POLICE NEWS Chief William Schlichter

The Western Berks Regional Police Department would like to give you tips for the upcoming fall season:

Leaves: Slow down when the road is covered with leaves. If the temperature drops below freezing, the wet leaves will freeze and turn into dangerous icy leaves on the roadway. Also remember we do NOT allow leaf burning!

Daylight: With fewer hours of daylight, it's difficult to see pedestrians, kids playing or riding their bikes. So if you don't have automatic headlights, make sure they are on at the onset of dusk.

Mornings: In the mornings, the sun can be blinding, making it difficult to see brake lights ahead. Keep a pair of sunglasses in your car to reduce glare and protect your vision.

Temperatures: Clear your windshield of frost before heading out in the morning. Frost can also form on the road surface without being visible, so be cautious in wooded areas, bridges and overpasses, where ice can quickly develop.

Car Emergencies: Always keep an emergency car kit in your trunk. Some can be found in stores already pre-made for convenience, but if you want to create your own, be sure to include a flashlight, first-aid kit, jumper cables, windshield washer fluid and basic tools. A blanket is always a good idea too!

School: School is back in session so keep an eye out for students walking, school buses traveling and the flashing lights on the buses. Know your school buses laws!

Halloween: Trick or Treating in Robesonia is from 6 pm to 9 pm on Monday, October 31, 2016. Curfew will be at 9 pm.

Remember, Western Berks Regional Police Department provides police protection 24-7. If you see any suspicious activity, please contact the department immediately at 610-655-4911.

The Police Department wishes you a happy and safe fall season!



THE MAYOR'S MUSINGS Mayor Randy Gartner

Thank You to all who helped make the Robesonia Street fair a success. It's a lot of work and it's not just for the Street Fair. We have about five fund raisers a year to help pay the \$14,000 it costs to put on this event. The Street Fair Committee is always looking for help. If you want to see this event continue, then you need to get involved.

The Friends of the Robesonia Furnace is on the lookout for new members. It costs \$10 a year or \$100 for a Lifetime membership. You get two newsletters a year with articles on the history of the Furnace and the Borough. Send your money along with name, address and phone number or e-mail to Friends of the Robesonia Furnace, PO Box 162, Robesonia, Pa 19551.

If you belong to a group who would like to hear about the history of the Furnace, or take a tour of the Furnace Museum, you can contact me at 484-955-7381.

Have you been having trouble with the Post Office? Trouble receiving mail or your mail getting to its destination in a timely manner?

Customer service issues? We'd like to hear from you! Please take a moment to write out a complaint outlining your specific issue and turn it in to the Borough Office no later than October 15th. Thank you!

A LIFE'S LESSON:

Council Member Tony Wirebach

If you want to care ABOUT something (but don't), try caring FOR it first...

I see participating in local government a lot like picking up the towels off the floor in my own bathroom: I may not have put them there; they SHOULD be picked up, both to preserve the towels, the happy mood of my wife so that SHE doesn't have to do it herself. It is neither profitable, nor glamorous. I do it because it needs to be done. Why me? -well, why in the world NOT me!?!?

I find that, at first, what appears to be a thankless chore, one that I do grudgingly, starts to become a quiet labor of love. Sweeping the porch, or fixing a broken door: the more I do FOR my house and my family, the more I feel vested IN my house and family. The more I care FOR something, both emotionally and in practice, the more that something becomes a part of me and my life. The very purpose of my existence: the culmination of actions and feelings about the things I have done, and the people I have done them for - and with - as a community.

People who don't care about their town have most likely spent little or no time caring FOR their town. That's not a criticism, because we are all busy, and we all have our own priorities. But pick up some trash or sweep up some leaves and things will change for you. Not overnight, and not too dramatically at first, but, over time ... all good stewards in life grow a strong attachment to the things for which they have labored. We can't help it. It is built into our DNA.

The same holds true for relationships ... If there is a part of your life that is lacking, don't despair because life has not given you what you are hoping for. You've got to pay it forward: Do something. Work. If you want people to reach out and show that they love you, love someone first - not emotionally, but actively, with sincere and selfless acts of service. If you want to be cared about, care FOR someone or something that matters to others. People may "friend" you on FaceBook. But "liking" a post online takes less than a second. It's better than nothing, but a far cry from shoveling an elderly neighbor's sidewalk or helping them catch their dog when it has run away. Real "likes" take time and effort, and real connections happen on the street, not in the chat room.

If you want to care about something (or someone), try caring FOR something (or someone) first. Yes, it takes work. Yes, it takes time. Yes, there are absolutely NO guarantees the world will pay you back in kind for you efforts. And No, there are no guarantees it will save you from hardship. Do it anyway. It will help, I promise you, and your life will be richer and more fulfilled because of it.

Of course, if you REALLY want to help, the first step - always - is just showing up, and Borough Council is as good a place to start as any. Join us. Watch and Learn. Then step onto the field and see what happens. Before you know it, you might just start caring about something beyond just yourself and your own property, and maybe make a new friend or two along the way.

"Caring has the gift of making the ordinary special."
- George R. Bach

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."
- Margaret Mead

REMINDER TO TAXPAYERS

Hello everyone! The School Real Estate and Per Capita tax bills are currently due. The discount period runs from July through August followed by the flat rate period in September and October. All taxes must be paid no later than December 31, 2016.

Hours –

Aug 15 - 10 AM to Noon at the Borough Office

Aug 17 - 10 AM to Noon at the Borough Office

Aug 19 - 5 PM to 7 PM at my home

Aug 22 - 10 AM to Noon at the Borough Office

Aug 24 - 10 AM to Noon at the Borough Office

Aug 25 - 5 PM to 7 PM at my home

Aug 31 - 10 AM to Noon at my home

Oct 31 - 10 AM to Noon at my home

Dec 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 lockbox next to my office door for tax drop-offs. If you itemize for your income tax – the federal government requires a receipt for property taxes. Enclose a self addressed and stamped envelope if you would like a receipt. Receipts will not be mailed if you do not include a return envelope. If you have any questions or concerns, you can call me at 610-693-6640.

Save a tree! And postage. You can mail multiple bills in the same envelope and use one return envelope for receipts.



**THE WORD ON
THE STREETS...
STREETS SUPERVISOR
GARRY DEGLER**

2016 LEAF PICK-UP

Once again, leaves will be picked up throughout the fall season until complete, weather permitting (meaning no plowable snow before all the leaves have been picked up) or December 9th, whichever comes first. Please rake your leaves to the gutter or planting strip and they will be picked up **within a couple of days**. Do NOT call the Borough Hall to inform them you put your leaves to the curb. We are well aware of who has their leaves raked to the curb and when they put them out. We pick up the leaves one section of town at a time. So if we are not here the day you get them out, we WILL be there within a few days...be patient! Do not include any trash or grass clippings. These should be placed out for the regular trash pick-up. Thank you for your patience and cooperation!



**WHAT'S HAPPENING
AT
YOUR LIBRARY?**

75 A South Brooke Street

Robesonia, PA 19551

610-693-3264 Fax: 610-693-6864

E-mail: robesoniac@berks.lib.pa.us

www.berks.lib.pa.us/sro/

Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:30 am – 8:00 pm

Friday & Saturday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Regular Children's Programs:

1st Monday LEGO Night @ 6:30 pm-No LEGO in September

2nd Monday Craft Night @ 6:30 pm- No Craft Night in September

4th Monday Family Movie Night @ 6:00 pm-No Movie in October

Wednesdays @ 9:30 am Story Rider-No Story Rider November 23rd

Please contact the library at 610-693-3264, check our website www.berks.lib.pa.us/sro/ or our Facebook page for upcoming baby and preschool story times.

Special Children's Programs:

Thursday, September 15th @ 10:30 am is Curiosity Day. Join us for a celebration of 75 years of Curious George!

Tuesday, September 20th Read to Therapy Dog Monte, reading begins @ 6:30 pm. Sign up for a 10 minute time block in the library.

Monday, September 26th @ 6 pm is Family Movie Night Featuring the animated movie Zootopia.

Monday, October 24th Halloween Party @ 6 pm. Boys and Ghouls can visit the library for a night of frightfully good fun.

Tuesday, November 15th Read to Therapy Dog Monte, reading begins @ 6:30 pm. Sign up for a 10 minute time block in the library.

Holiday Closures:

The Library will be closed for Labor Day Monday, September 5th.

We will be closing at 5 pm Wednesday, November 23rd and will be closed Thursday, November 24th and Friday, November 25th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Friends of Robesonia Community Library

The Friends had a very successful spring book sale as well as an outstanding garden tour in June. We are grateful to the wonderful gardeners who so graciously shared their beautiful gardens with the participants of the tour. We had hoped to visit Gettysburg National Military Park in September, but, unfortunately, the trip had to be cancelled due to lack of interest.

Join us for our fall public meeting on Tuesday, October 25, at 7 p.m., for an engaging program by Darius Puff, who is a Native American historian. We will journey with him through the history of his ancestors, the Lenape Indians. Program is free and light refreshments will be served.

We are seeking donations of clean, gently used books, DVDs and CDs for our next book sale. We cannot accept magazines or VHS tapes. Items can be dropped off at the library during hours of operation--Mondays through Thursdays 9:30 to 8:00, Fridays and Saturdays 9:00 to 1:00. For more information, call the library at 610-693-3264. Be sure to check at the library or its website for the date of the next sale which still has to be determined.



LOCAL CHURCH NEWS

St. Paul's United Church of Christ 301 West Penn Avenue

610-621-5770

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz

Website: www.Sprucc.org

Email: stpaul4secretary@comcast.net

Off-street Parking

Handicapped Accessible

Rally Day- September 18th

“Live by the Spirit, Be led by the Spirit”

Harmony Hill puppet Theatre will be performing during the worship service, there will be a Puppet Workshop for the children after the service, games and a luncheon will follow. All are welcome.

Christkindlmarkt Bazaar and Craft Show

Saturday, November 19th from 9am-2pm

Homemade candy, soup, baked goods, chow chow and other jarred items

Basket raffle, Attic Treasures and collectible plates
Items from local artisans and craftsmen

Light breakfast items and lunch will be available

Proceeds benefit community programs

For information regarding tables for crafters please
call

Kathie Matthew at 610-927-4840 or e-mail
kmatthew522@aol.com

Soup and Such

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

Provided second and last Thursday of the month
September 8 and 29, October 13 and 27,
November 10 (early because of Holiday)
For information call 610 621 5770

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 (provided by church) per child

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

108 S. Robeson Street

610-693-6062

Pastor William Weiser



Jack Frost Parade on Nov. 6th

Be sure to save this date as plans are underway to make this parade even better than last year. We already have the mummies, Eagles Pep Band, and bag-pipers coming back. If you are part of a group, club or organization, talk to them now about entering a float or marching in the parade; remember there are cash prizes!

We will have the same parade route as last year, traveling west on 422, going south on Church Street, east on Ruth Street, and ending at the church. We will stage the parade at the Conrad Weiser Middle School. Call the church office for a registration form or visit our website @ www.trinityrobersonia.org!

Raffle Fundraiser for Jack Frost Parade & Scholarships

Trinity Lutheran Church is having a raffle to help fund the Jack Frost Parade and Scholarships. Tickets are \$10 a piece, 3 for \$25 (*but must all be purchased in the same name*). First prize will be a \$5,000 cash prize. The winner is responsible for all taxes. Second prize is \$500 and third prize is \$250, with an additional ten people winning \$100. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the Jack Frost Parade and the two Jack Frost Scholarships for a senior male & female student at Conrad Weiser (\$2,500 each). Tickets are on sale now in the church office. You must be 18 in order to purchase a ticket. We have also purchased the required licenses from the state for this raffle. We need your support. **THANK YOU!**

A 5th Quarter “Thank you”

A heartfelt “thank you” goes out to every business, organization and individual who supported our 5th Quarter ministry at Trinity. We are averaging over 400 students at these gatherings. Your support has been fantastic!! We have scheduled upcoming events on September 16th, 23rd, 30th, October 14th, and 28th. All Football 5th Quarters will be held at the high school this

year. Again, thank you for giving our high school students a safe place to have fun!

Regular Worship schedule resumes September 17th and 18th:

Worship on Saturday at 5:00pm

Worship on Sunday at 8:00am and
10:45am Sunday School at
9:15am

October 2nd, 2016 – Blessing of the Animals

3:00pm in front of the church.

All are welcome with their pets.



School is about ready to start up again and so is Girl Scouts. Girls from K through 12 are welcome to join. Troops are forming now. Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. And yes, they have lots of fun along the way! Questions? Call Ann Reynolds at 610-693-6640 or AnnR40@comcast.net



Troop and Pack 479 would like to announce the installation of an aluminum can collection point at BHCP 631 W. Penn Avenue Robesonia, Pa 19551. This collection point will be used to help fund our local scouting program. If you like to join please contact Todd Sauber (717) 587-3006 or Jack Snyder (610) 693-4234.

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 -

Bernville, 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.

Camp 113 will participate in a program honoring the legacy of Conrad Weiser at the Conrad Weiser Homestead, just east of Womelsdorf, on **Sunday, September 11th at 2:00 PM.** Everyone is welcome to attend this brief ceremony during which Weiser's significant contributions to his community and to the Pennsylvania colony are commemorated. As President Washington said when he visited Weiser's grave, "posterity will not forget his services."

Camp 113 also recently placed a flag-disposal box in the lobby of the Borough Hall, as is shown here. Please dispose of any tattered or soiled flags and any flags no longer suitable for respectful display in the box. A Camp brother periodically will empty the box. All flags removed will be stored for eventual retirement and destruction at an annual Flag Day event

If you are interested in joining the POS of A or in learning more about our service organization, please contact Camp President Bob Bashore (bobkatizzy@juno.com) or Dave Bright (david.bright@ssmgroup.com).



SWIFT 911

We've had the SWIFT 911 program in place for over two years now. If you have never received a robo-call you are not in the system. To be placed on the SWIFT 911 system, please go to the borough's website at www.robsoniaboro.org. There you will find the SWIFT 911 logo in the upper left corner of the face page of our website. Click on the link and enter your information. You can add both your home and cell phones for notification purposes. If you do not have computer access please call your information in to our office at 610-693-3474 and we will add you to the list.

JACK FROST PARADE ROAD CLOSURE REMINDER!!

Just a reminder that Penn Avenue will be closed from Freeman Street to Church Street on Sunday, November 6th for the Jack Frost Parade!

The closure will start at 2:00 PM and end at 5 PM. Also, there will be NO PARKING along the parade route from Noon to 6 that day.

This is a truly fun, family-friendly event so come on out and enjoy the day and the festivities with your friends and families!

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

ATTENTION ALL VETERANS!!



VETERANS FOR VETERANS WALK NOVEMBER 11, 2016 RAIN OR SHINE

**WALK OR RIDE AS YOU ARE ABLE
6-1/2 MILE TRIP**

**WITH STOPS AT THE CW HIGH SCHOOL,
HENRY P ROBESON PARK IN ROBESONIA &
WOMELSDORF MEMORIAL PARK
(WITH A BRIEF CEREMONY AT EACH STOP)**

**MUSTER & PARK AT 8:15 AT WOMELSDORF
PARK PAVILION OR THE SMOKEHAUS FOR A
RIDE TO WERNERSVILLE**

**WALK STARTS AT 9AM IN WERNERSVILLE
SHUTTLE WILL RUN WALKERS BACK TO
WERNERSVILLE OR SMOKE HAUS IF YOU
PREFER TO LEAVE FROM THERE.
PLEASE CARPOOL IF POSSIBLE**

**REFRESHMENTS SERVED AFTERWARDS AT
JONNY & HONS SMOKE HAUS**

**FOR INFORMATION CALL JIM BEIDLER
610-468-6348**



IMPORTANT DATES!!

October 11- Last day to REGISTER before the November election

November 1- Last day to apply for a civilian absentee ballot

November 4- Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted civilian absentee ballots

November 8- **GENERAL ELECTION**
(Borough office will be closed)

November 15- Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on November 7)

CHANGES TO YOUR SEWER BILLING!!

As some of you may have noticed by now, your sewer billing has been taken over by Diversified Technology, the same company that has been doing the Water Authority billing for the past couple of years. **As a result of this change you will no longer be able to pay your sewer bills at the Borough Hall.** You will, however, be able to pay your bill online just as you can with your water bill.

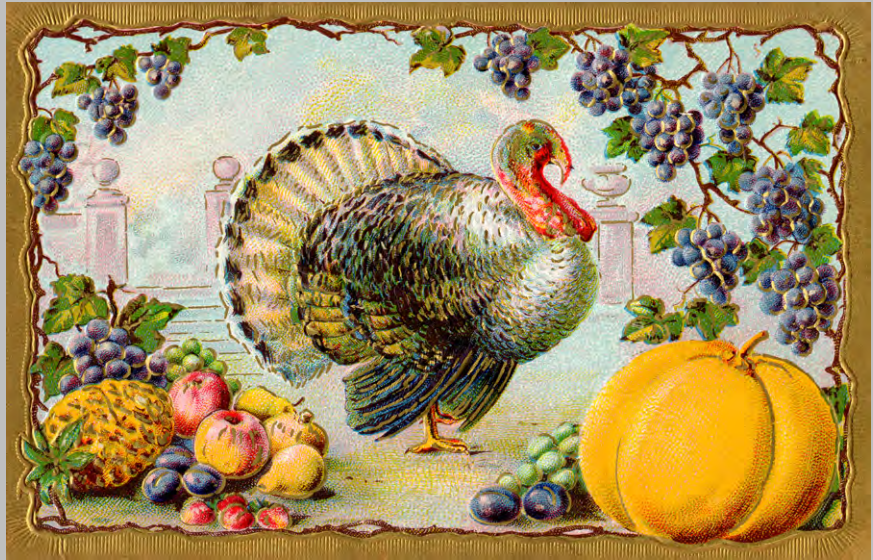
"We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill



**WISHING YOU MANY BLESSINGS FOR WHICH TO
BE GRATEFUL THIS THANKSGIVING!
HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL OUR RESIDENTS!
ROBESONIA BOROUGH COUNCIL & MAYOR**

In observance of the Thanksgiving holiday, the
Borough Office will be closed on Thursday, November
24th and Friday, November 25th.



TRICK OR TREAT NIGHT!!
Saturday, October 31st
6:00 PM TO 9:00 PM