

# BERNVILLE BOROUGH NEWSLETTER

Volume 22, Issue 1

January-February-March 2018

**BERNVILLE BOROUGH:** P.O. BOX 40, BERNVILLE, PA. 19506-0040

**PHONE:** 484-769-8594 **FAX:** 610-488-9500

**E-mail:** bernvilleboro@comcast.net

**OFFICE HOURS:** Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**MAYOR:** Shawn Raup-Konsavage

**BOROUGH POLICE:** 610-488-0928 **Chief:** Brian Thumm bernvillepd@comcast.net

**READING STATE POLICE:** 610-378-4011 **EMERGENCY:** 911

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR:** James Moyer, Sr.

**WATER AUTHORITY:** Select Environmental Solutions Inc.

**ENGINEER AND CODES OFFICER:** Motley Associates, Jim Mohn 610-775-0888

**SEWER ENGINEER:** Entech Engineering, John Brady 610-373-3345

**Solicitor:** Christopher Hartman

|                                 |                          |           |              |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Borough Council Meetings</b> | 1st Tuesday of the month | 7:00 p.m. | Borough Hall |
| <b>Planning Commission</b>      | 2nd Monday of the month  | 7:00 p.m. | Borough Hall |

## BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shawn Raup-Konsavage, Mayor

Council Members' names and their assignments will appear in the next Newsletter.

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Brenda Strunk - Secretary, Treasurer, Open Records Official

### PLANNING COMMISSION

Thomas Vanzin, Rufus Merkey, Dottie Merkey,  
Wesley Raup-Konsavage

### SHADE TREE COMMISSION

Thomas Vanzin, Marcella Shaver, Jacob Shultz

### ZONING HEARING BOARD

Steve Faust, Jeremy Lutz

The blue recycling bins are the property of the borough. If you are moving, remember to leave your recycling bin for the new resident.

## ***BORO NEWS TO KNOW***

- 2018 millage rate will remain at 4.44 mills
- No increase in borough trash/recycling, sewer rates.
- Pay 2018 trash/recycling bill by February 28 - \$245.
- Clear snow and ice from sidewalks within 12 hours.
- Snow or ice emergency parking restrictions, see page 2.
- Change of Mayor, page 3.
- Recycle Christmas trees behind borough garage. Remove all decorations and tinsel. No artificial trees. No plastic tree covers. Trees are ground into mulch.
- Easter Egg Hunt, March 31. See page 4.

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## ***BOROUGH NEWS REPORT. . .***

### **Borough Council 2017 Year in Review**

#### **STREETS**

There haven't been any major road projects completed this year. However, there were several small repairs completed, including the replacement of a couple storm drains.

Borough Council awarded the 2017 – 2020 Snow Removal Contract to Snyder's Landscaping and Property Maintenance.

#### **SEWER**

The borough has accepted a 5 year contract from Select Environmental to operate the borough's Wastewater Treatment Plant.

#### **WATER**

The borough has accepted a 5 year contract from Select Environmental to operate the Borough's Water Facility.

Council is aware and working on the issues concerning dirty water. The water system is being treated for manganese. Exeter Supply, where the borough purchases the product, stated that the borough system is clean and now the problem lies within the homes. The treatment will rid the manganese but it will take time. If you have any issues with dirty water or low pressure, contact the Borough Secretary at 484-769-8594 or email [bernvilleboro@comcast.net](mailto:bernvilleboro@comcast.net).

Council is also looking into refinancing the Water Loan with Tompkins Vist Bank. Tompkins Vist offered the borough a 2.45% fixed rate rather than a variable rate we currently have with BB&T.

#### **PARKS**

Borough Council contracted services with Summer Mountain Tree Service at a cost of \$4300 to remove 18 ash trees at the park and pool area. There will be more trees removed in 2018 due to the Emerald Ash Borer.

The Zoning Hearing Board has a vacant seat. The Zoning Hearing Board meets only when there is a zoning hearing. This is when someone applies for a zoning permit and the application gets denied due to not complying with the zoning ordinance; then there would be a zoning hearing. If interested, please contact the Borough Secretary.

#### **FINANCE**

The millage rate will remain 4.44 mills for 2018. The 2018 budget was approved at the December 5, 2017 meeting. The following is the 2018 budget:

- a. General Fund \$303,430.00
- b. Sewer Fund \$293,950.00
- c. Trash Fund \$90,650.00
- d. Water Fund \$242,350.00

The trash bills will remain at \$245.00 for 2018 if paid by February 28, 2018. There will be a 5% finance charge on trash bills paid after March 1, 2018.

Borough Council would like to wish  
everyone a safe, healthy, and happy  
New Year!

### **Snow or Ice Emergencies**

When the Mayor declares a snow or ice emergency, there is no parking on Main Street from Garfield Road to Shartlesville Road and no parking on Second and Third Streets from Main Street to Route 183 (including the fire company parking lot).



For snow emergency information, tune to:

- Radio Station 830 AM (WEEU)
- Radio Station 102 FM (WRFY/Y102)
- Radio Station 105.1 FM (WIOV)
- TV – Berks-Lehigh News WFMZ channel 69 on cable channel 9.
- TV – WGAL News (channel 8).

Snow and ice are to be removed from the sidewalks within twelve (12) hours after the end of any snowfall. A walk path is to be cleared at least thirty (30) inches in width. Ordinance #235.

## A Change of Mayor

The borough wishes to thank Gene Weatherholtz for his years of service and dedication as mayor. His term expired at the end of 2017. Gene has been a steady, hands-on leader, even pitching in for the borough's annual Arbor Day celebrations. He had previously served as Council Member, and served as mayor for five years.

New Mayor, Shawn Raup-Konsavage, is a Main Street resident who has served on Council and will be sworn in before the January meeting. The borough welcomes Shawn and extends wishes for a successful term as Bernville's new mayor.

## Emerald Ash Borer Update

The borough continues to manage ash trees within Umbenhauer Park because of the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer, an insect killing millions of ash trees in the Midwest and Northeastern U.S.

Shade Tree Commission members and borough employees removed approximately twenty-five ash trees from the park in 2017 to minimize the cost of removal for the borough. A contract for the removal of additional ash trees (beyond the ability of Shade Tree members to remove safely) was awarded to a professional tree service in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

The borough anticipates removing additional ash trees in 2018 to ensure the safety of all those who use the park. Please take care to avoid any limbs, brush, or logs that may be on the ground during the removal of the additional ash trees in 2018. If needed, the park may be closed to the public temporarily to facilitate tree removal operations at that point.

It is anticipated that the borough will apply for a tree replacement grant in order to plant additional trees to compensate for the removal of the ash trees.

## 2018 Community Day Planning Meeting

Look for an announcement advertising the date and time for the meeting to plan this year's Community Day; information will be posted on the borough's marquee and in the Post Office and Library. Organizations that have participated in the past will be contacted to advise them of the date and time. Any organization or individual that would like to participate in planning this year's event is welcome to attend. The planning meeting will be held in late January or early February.

## Caroling at the Gazebo



The borough is grateful to the Bernville Community Fire Company for their safe delivery and return of Santa during his visit to the gazebo in December.

An additional note of appreciation goes to all those who participated in this annual event; perhaps those of all ages enjoyed creating some holiday memories.

Thanks are extended to Wes and Shawn Raup-Konsavage and Mitch and Erin Baker for decorating the gazebo; their volunteer efforts were very much appreciated by all who enjoyed the seasonal display.

## A Thank You for Christmas Lights

A big thank you to Danny, Brenda, and Ashley Strunk for putting up the Christmas lights on Main Street.

## Christmas Tree Recycling

Borough residents may recycle their Christmas tree behind the borough garage at the recycling center. Please remove all ornaments and tinsel prior to recycling. Additionally, please do not discard plastic tree covers at the recycling center which may have been used when removing the tree from your residence. Artificial trees cannot be accepted. The Christmas trees are converted to mulch which is eventually placed around trees in our parks and residential yards.



## Hospitality Booklet

The 2018 edition of the Bernville Hospitality Booklet (the "little yellow book") is being compiled and will be available in February or March. Copies will be distributed to borough residents. Additional copies are available at the Borough Hall and the Bernville Area Community Library throughout the year. The booklet is free and contains general information about Bernville. This year, a page in the booklet will provide information regarding the Uniform Construction Code and permit requirements associated with compliance to that code.

## Stanton Clay Park Annual Clean-up

If you are tired of sitting around the house this winter, join the Bernville Shade Tree Commission and other volunteers in late March as we perform the annual spring clean-up at Stanton Clay Park. Announcements will be placed on the borough marquee, in the Post Office, and within the park announcing the specific date of the clean-up. Start time is around 9:00 a.m., with work completed typically by noon. Activities include general park clean-up, leaf raking, light tree pruning, mulching, and debris removal. Please bring a pair of work gloves and wear shoes and clothing that are appropriate for the usually wet/cool spring conditions.



## Easter Egg Hunt March 31st



The annual Easter Egg Hunt in Umbenhauer Park, for children up to sixth grade, will be held on Saturday, March 31, at 1:00 p.m. Please bring a bag or container for the eggs and have your child or children dress in appropriate clothing for the weather and nature of activity.

The Easter Egg Hunt has been supported by Bernville Borough, local churches, and Boyer's; we are grateful to all who contribute to this fun event.

## COMMUNITY NEWS...

### Bernville Area Community Library

4<sup>th</sup> Street at Fox Alley  
2<sup>nd</sup> floor of Redner's Quick Shop  
P.O. Box 580, Bernville, PA 19506  
Phone: 610-488-1302  
Fax: 1-270-479-1302  
E-mail: [bernvilleacl@berks.lib.pa.us](mailto:bernvilleacl@berks.lib.pa.us)  
Website: <http://www.berks.lib.pa.us/bernvilleacl>



#### LIBRARY HOURS:

M-Th 11 a.m.-7 p.m. | Sat 10 a.m.-2 p.m. | Sun 2-5 p.m.  
Closed Fridays, New Year's Day.



**Story Times** on Mondays at 11:15 a.m. with **Miss Debe**.

In February, **Story Rider**, **Miss Kim** will be on Thursdays @ 11:15 a.m.

We also have **Baby Lapsits** for infants to toddlers with **Miss Debe**; scheduled for 11:00am and 6:00pm, every other Tuesday, beginning January 9<sup>th</sup>.

The **Lego Club** will resume on March 12, 2018, and continue on the second Monday of each month.

The **Crochet Club** will be reorganizing in March as well. Come by the library and sign up.

Miss Alicea has plans for **Mystery and Science Evenings** of Exploration, focusing on the 8-12 year old age group; please check with the library for dates and times.

The **American Girl Book Club** will meet every month, so please come to the library and find out more.

We would like to remind everyone that we have Hotspots here for rent. These devices provide internet access through a wi-fi system. Please call the library or stop by for more information and availability.



Also, we invite everyone to visit our **Perpetual Book Sale**, located in our back room.

Our selection will be renewed in the first few months of the year and no one can beat our prices!

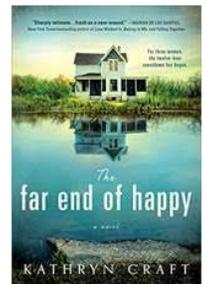
There will be an author visit with the Bernville Area Community's Book Club, on January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

**Kathryn Craft** will direct our discussion of her book entitled *The Far*



*End of Happy*.

Contact the library for more information.



Our plans for the new year include finding **Friends** for the library. We need library lovers to join forces and collaborate in fundraising activities. The library system is in the middle of an evolution that needs help and support from the community to enable our library to move forward and grow. We ask everyone to stop by the library and sign up for our Friends group.

## Bernville Community Fire Company

6701 Bernville Road  
Engine House 610-488-6592  
Fire Chief 610-488-6687



Thank you for your continued support of the Bernville Community Fire Company.

Like us on Facebook at  
[www.facebook.com/bernvillecommunityfirecompany](http://www.facebook.com/bernvillecommunityfirecompany)

## Bernville Grange #1887

Meets every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday 7:00 p.m.  
37 Shartlesville Road  
610-488-1381



To rent the Grange Hall for parties or other gatherings, call 610-488-7518. The lower floor has a kitchen and a large dining area with tables. The upper floor has a stage and a large open area.

## Bernville Pool

Open Memorial Day to Labor Day  
610-488-0624 (summers)  
[bernvillepool@gmail.com](mailto:bernvillepool@gmail.com)



We are preparing to celebrate our 60th Anniversary this summer. We are looking for pictures and mementos from the community. Do you have any pictures that we could borrow of your family enjoying the pool? Would you like to place an ad for your business in a book we are planning on putting together to celebrate our anniversary? Are you interested in helping to organize this celebration? Please contact Larry or Kelly Groff [610-488-1277](tel:610-488-1277).

We NEED community members to serve on the board and to help with repair work at the pool. Things needing to be done--cleaning, painting the pool, general maintenance, lawn mowing, etc. We are looking for lifeguards for the 2018 season; if you are 15 or older and a strong swimmer, please start the process now.

(Certification classes fill fast.) Please contact Karen Alton, [610-488-8694](tel:610-488-8694), if you are interested in helping to keep our community pool open for years to come.

We are considering doing special swim events for pool members and increasing the day user rate for the year. So please consider purchasing a pool membership. Watch our facebook page (Bernville Community Pool) for the membership form. We are hopeful to be open by Memorial Day this year, but if there are no volunteers to help paint the pool and other prep work, that may delay the opening! Please consider volunteering--watch our Facebook page for work days!

See you at the pool in just a few short months!!

## Bernville Young at Heart

Meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 1 p.m.  
At the Bernville Grange

Senior  
Citizens

### Meetings:

- January 17 – Installation of officers.
- February 21 – Nosegay
- March 21 – Pysansky Egg Decorating with Kim Kostival

Trip Contact: Earl & Millie Graeff 610-488-6898

## Boy Scout Troop 422

Meets every Tuesday 6:45 p.m.  
in St. Thomas Church basement.  
Scout Master: Brad Folk  
Phone: 610-488-8058  
E-mail: [folkfamily548@comcast.net](mailto:folkfamily548@comcast.net)



The boy scouts are collecting aluminum cans. There are bins at the following locations: Boyer's Market, Bernville Beverage, and Blue Marsh Canteen. Aluminum cans only; no trash, plastic, or glass please.

Congratulations to Alex Kellenberger, Austin Beard and Ricky Yeager on earning their Eagle Scout Awards.

The Scouts will be having a Kauffman's chicken BBQ sale Thursday, April 5; pickup up at St. Thomas. Tickets will go on sale in March.

## Cub Scout Pack 422



Cub Master: Tim Adam  
E-mail:  
tadam2003@comcast.net



**Flag Etiquette:** When an American flag becomes discolored, weathered, torn, ripped, etc., then it is time to properly retire the flag. To honorably retire an old flag, contact the Cub Scouts. They will retire the flag for you – in the correct manner.

## Evangelical Lutheran Friedens Church



Main & Washington Streets,  
P.O. Box 201, Bernville, PA  
19506

Church Office  
Telephone 610-488-6260  
Church Building  
Telephone 610-488-0206

E-mail at [Friedens\\_bernville@verizon.net](mailto:Friedens_bernville@verizon.net)

Web Site: [Friedensbernvillepa.com](http://Friedensbernvillepa.com)

Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
(holiday weeks and/or other hours by appointment)

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday School – 9:00 a.m.

Coffee Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.

Worship Service – 10:30 a.m.

*“Everyone Is Welcome”*

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & PROGRAMS:

**Monday, Jan 8, Feb 12, Mar 12 – Free Soup & Bread Lunch, 11:30am – 1pm.** You are invited to a free community Soup and Bread Lunch. We hope you will join us for soup, bread, and fellowship. Questions? Call Luanne at 610-589-4258 or the church at 610-488-6260.

**Saturday, February 10 – Soup Sale 9am – 12 noon.** A variety of home made soups will be available for purchase to enjoy at home. Snow date February 18. For more information call the church office.

**Wednesday, February 14 – Ash Wednesday Service 7-8 pm**

**Wednesdays, February 21, 28, and March 7, 14, 21 - Lenten Services, 6 pm Soup & Bread, 7 pm Service.** Please call the church office for confirmation of location & time.

**Friedens Easter Candy** will be made starting March 13-22. Orders are due by March 11 and can be picked up starting March 15. Homemade butter cream, coconut and peanut butter candy will be offered.

Evangelical Lutheran Friedens church recently constructed a memorial brick walk in the spring of 2017 to provide our capital campaign funds for much-needed maintenance and modernization of our building. It is located on the walkway/garden of the church (the side adjacent to the main parking lot). We are offering the community an opportunity to purchase a brick to permanently honor or celebrate the remembrance of a family member, friend, and/or someone else who has touched your life in a meaningful way. To further grace and beautify this project, one of our members has donated funds for a stone memorial bench located at the back of the brick walk.

Your participation and support is vital so that Friedens can continue to support its Christian ministry, not only among its own members, but also for the surrounding Bernville community.

Each brick is 4 x 8 inches, and can contain up to three lines of text (45 spaces – 15 per line). The purchase price of each brick is \$150. You may want to share the cost of a brick with several family members.

Please feel free to stop by and consider how you can also honor someone who made a difference in your life

Order forms are available at the church or call the church at 610-488-6260.

## St. Thomas Church



### ST. THOMAS CHURCH

536 N. Main Street  
Bernville, PA 19506  
Rev. Dr. Daniel Lute  
Youth Pastor Joel Jackson  
Phone: 610-488-6702  
Fax: 610-488-0962  
e-mail: stchurchbv@verizon.net  
visit us at stthomasbernville.org  
Contemporary Worship Service 8:00 a.m.  
Eat and Greet 9:00 a.m.  
Sunday School (all ages) 9:15 a.m.  
Traditional Worship Service 10:30 a.m.

**S.O.F.A. Food Distribution**  
(Share Our Food Always)  
3rd Thursday of each month  
from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Contact Youth Pastor  
Joel Jackson for more information.

**Youth Group**  
(Grades 7<sup>th</sup> thru 12<sup>th</sup>)  
Sunday 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**The ROCK**  
(Grades K thru 6<sup>th</sup>)  
Thursday 6:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Thursday, January 18**  
S.O.F.A. Food Distribution - 5 to 6 p.m.

**Saturday, February 3**  
Youth Pot Pie Dinner - 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.  
All proceeds benefit Youth Mission Trip 2018.

**Wednesday, February 14**  
Ash Wednesday Service - 7 p.m.

**Thursday, February 15**  
S.O.F.A. Food Distribution - 5 to 6 p.m.

**Every Wednesday February 21 through March 21**  
Community Lenten Services  
Call the church office for location and time.

**Thursday, March 15**  
S.O.F.A. Food Distribution - 5 to 6 p.m.

**Sunday, March 25**  
Palm Sunday-services at 8 & 10:30 a.m.

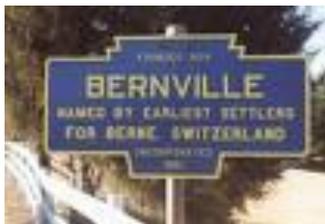
**Friday, March 30**  
Good Friday Service - 7 p.m.

**Saturday, March 31**  
Easter Egg Hunt in Umbenhauer Park - 1 p.m.

**\*\*Mark you calendars\*\***  
Easter Musical On Sunday, April 1 at 10:30 a.m.

## A Bit of Bernville History

January 20, 1820 was a big day in Bernville history; it's the day the new "town" (although comprised of only one street) officially received its name. Happy Name Day to Bernville!



## Flag Drop-Off Box at Borough Hall



Thanks to the efforts of the Patriotic Order Sons of America, Bernville has an outdoor drop-off box for old, worn out flags. Your old flags will be properly retired by this organization when you drop them in this box.

## BOROUGH CALENDAR...

### Dates To Remember

#### January

- 2 - Borough Council Meeting
- 3 - Recycling Pick-up
- 8 - Planning Commission Meeting
- 17 - Recycling Pick-up
- 31 - Recycling Pick-up

#### February

- 6 - Borough Council Meeting
- 12 - Planning Commission Meeting
- 14 - Recycling Pick-up
- 28 - Recycling Pick-up

#### March

- 6 - Borough Council Meeting
- 12 - Planning Commission Meeting
- 14 - Recycling Pick-up
- 28 - Recycling Pick-up
- 31 - Easter Egg Hunt - Umb. Park, 1 p.m.

### BERNVILLE NEWSLETTER

The Bernville Planning Commission publishes this *Newsletter* four times per year on behalf of the Borough. Articles may be submitted to P.O. Box 40, Bernville, PA 19506 or via e-mail to [bernvillenews@gmail.com](mailto:bernvillenews@gmail.com). Deadline for the April-May-June newsletter is March 5th. **Please submit articles in Microsoft Word via e-mail wherever possible.** Extra copies of the *Newsletter* are distributed at the Bernville Library, Bernville Post Office, Borough Hall, and Mario's Restaurant