



LEHIGH BOROUGH

INDEX

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.....	2
DOWNTOWN INITIATIVE.....	3
PUBLIC WORKS DEPT.....	3
GARBAGE & RECYCLING	4
SHADE TREE COMMISSION	4
UTILITY BILLING OFFICE	5
ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT/ BUILDING CODE OFFICER	5
LEHIGH FIRE DEPT. AND LEHIGH FIRE CO. #1	7
LEHIGH POLICE DEPT.	8
RETIREMENT LETTER	9
RECREATION CENTER	9
HOUSEHOLD STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	10
LEHIGH AREA POOL PALS	11
BAER MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL	11
LIGHT & POWER DEPT.	12
WHERE YOUR REAL ESTATE TAX DOLLAR GOES	13
A TRAIL TOWN.....	13
COME VISIT COLONEL JACOB WEISS PARK.....	13
LEHIGH BOROUGH DIRECTORY.....	14

Welcome

Please enjoy our first published newsletter. We will be publishing biannually to help the Borough residents stay informed on the activities of Council and the various volunteer boards and commissions as well as other community groups and organizations. From this point forward, we will be publishing the newsletter in for Spring / Summer and Fall / Winter. We hope this publication along with the borough website, www.lehighborough.com, serves as a guide for the many services offered to our residents.



Front Row: Darryl Arner, Vice-President Scott Rehrig, President Grant Hunsicker

Back Row: Lisa Perry, Jared McEvoy, Helen Torok, Joseph Flickinger

Do not hesitate to contact our administrative staff or borough departments with any questions, concerns and suggestions. Borough Council meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00pm in Council's Chambers located at One Constitution Avenue. We welcome your attendance at our public meetings. Your participation and opinions are always important to the Borough Council.

Grant R. Hunsicker, Council President



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SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

The Borough had the honor of hosting an eight-day celebration from June 25th through July 2nd for our Sesquicentennial. On behalf of Council and the 150th Anniversary Committee, we want to thank all who contributed and took part in our celebration. The Committee had spent three years planning eight full days of history, tradition and fun for the community. It is the hope a lasting impression was left on the Lehigh Community and all of Carbon County. To close our 150th year, the Committee had partnered with Lehigh Downtown Initiative and the Lehigh Band to host the first Lehigh's Community Christmas Celebration.



Lehigh Downtown Initiative

The Lehigh Downtown Initiative is business, government and community working together to enhance the vitality of the downtown for the benefit of the Lehigh Community.

Their mission is to promote the revitalization and growth of downtown Lehigh through collaboration among property owners, private citizens, community and business leaders, town and government representatives and civic organizations.

The LDI's goals are to encourage more effective cooperation and collaboration between downtown businesses, government entities and the Lehigh community on issues related to the downtown. Develop opportunities for promotion of the downtown through events and marketing. Advocate for the interests and betterment of the downtown business community. Serve as the lead organization for information, advocacy and discussion on issues related to downtown. Encourage development and revitalization activities downtown. Connect with the community.

The LDI will be having events for the citizens of Lehigh. They will be having free movie nights in the PFC Clyde House Building on Third Street, free bowling at Fritz's bowling alley, and the 2nd annual Rocktoberfest. Go to their Facebook page: Lehigh Downtown Initiative for dates and times of our upcoming events.

They are always looking for more members to help carry out their goals and missions, they meet the 2nd Thursday each month at 6:30 on the second floor of the Lehigh Borough building. Any questions or suggestions for the group can be directed to Jared McEvoy at 610-509-5596 or Lisa Perry at 610-573-8331.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Kris Kunkle, Superintendent | Jeffrey Smith, Assistant Superintendent
610-377-4009-Non-Emergency | Monday – Friday 7:00am-3:30pm

The Lehigh Borough Public Works Department consists of our two Superintendents, five Maintenance Operators, a mechanic, and part time laborers. These employees are responsible for maintaining all streets, alleys, storm sewers, sanitary sewers, and maintenance on all Borough owned properties and buildings. Our full time mechanic's responsible for maintaining all Borough owned vehicles and equipment.

We have completed many projects in 2016 including the Gypsy Hill culvert and paving project. Numerous Alleys have been paved including Center Alley from Iron Street to Keystone Alley and continued Center Alley from North Street to Coal Street. Also paved was King Alley from 7th Street to Iron Street and Birch Alley from Union Street to Alum Street. Paving was also done at the Grove's Tennis Court, Basketball Court, and two walking paths within the Grove.

When winter dumps piles of snow upon us, residents can take certain steps to assist road crews in making plowing and snow removal easier and more efficient for the public.

- Do not drive in a winter storm unless it is absolutely necessary.



- Make sure your vehicle is equipped with snow tires or chains.
- Thoroughly clean all snow and ice from your vehicle.
- DO NOT shovel snow from driveways, sidewalks and parking spaces onto the streets, as it is not only hazardous, but also illegal under the PA Motor Code.
- If you live near a fire hydrant, please remove snow and ice from around the hydrant. It may save

your property or your life or your neighbors' property or life.

- Please be observant during the winter season and obey the orange "No Parking" signs that may be placed on your street. They are placed there for your convenience to allow the Street Department to clear the streets and parking spaces of piles of snow.

Every time it snows, we spend valuable time cleaning areas to park our cars. In many cases the parking is on a public street. No matter how irritating it may be for someone to park in a space you've cleaned, it is still public parking and anyone can park there. The bottom line is to have a little consideration for one another. It will definitely make for less stress in our neighborhoods.

Garbage and Recycling

By now everyone should be enjoying a new recycle tote. Lehighton Borough was fortunate enough to receive a \$125,000 Recycling Grant through the Department of Environmental Protection in 2015. The Borough Parks, Trailhead and Swimming Pool all have trash and recycle combination containers available for use by residents as part of the grant. This was a large amount of money to receive from DEP and we are very proud of the award.

Our new sanitation company is County Waste. They will be providing services to us for the next four years. They have been gracious enough to provide a garbage tote as a courtesy to our residents at no cost to the borough. They will be going to an automated service in the near future and these totes are necessary for this next step. Using these new containers keeps garbage bags from being ripped open making a mess on our streets.



Businesses are now mandated to recycle or be fined for not doing their part. This is why we have gone to a weekly pick up. If you are a business that pays garbage to the borough and need a bigger recycle container or a recycle dumpster please call the number on the garbage calendar to have a larger one delivered.

Garbage calendars are available on the borough website and in the Utility Billing Office. If you do not pay your bill at the office and have no computer access please call (610) 377-4002 ext. 211 to have one mailed.

County Waste should be contacted directly by the resident if your garage/recycling is missed, they can be reached at (570) 874-3047. Contacting the hauler directly will result in faster service time along with a direct response from County Waste as to their timeframe for pickup.

Lehighton Borough receives money for recycling which helps to keep our costs down. Recycling reduces the amount of trash going into our landfills, is good for our planet and the right thing to do. We take pride in our town and are working diligently on improving our town as a whole as well as giving it a welcoming appearance to those visiting the borough.

Lehighton Shade Tree Commission



Although the Lehighton Shade Tree Commission has been in place since 1993, it is safe to say that 2016 offered the members of the Shade Tree Commission their biggest challenge to date. It was in 2016 that the Shade Tree Commission took on the aggressive goal of planting 150 trees throughout the borough in support of Lehighton's 150 year anniversary. The initiative was a huge success and the Shade Tree members will be forever grateful to the community for rallying around them to support their cause. Besides the monetary donation for the trees, over 60 volunteers showed up on the day of the planting which was outstanding considering the cold damp weather they faced to start the day.

Each Arbor Day you will find the Shade Tree members celebrating Arbor Day in conjunction with the Lehighton Middle school children. Over the years, thousands of seedlings have been given away to students allowing them to take the seedling home looking to make their home just a little more greener.

The Shade Tree Commission also celebrates Earth Day each year with the planting of trees along the borough streets and parks. The Shade Tree has formed a partnership with various Scouting troops to help with these plantings over the years.

Lehighton has been designated as "Tree City USA" each year since 1993. The Shade Tree members are proud of this fact knowing that Lehighton is one of the oldest boroughs and cities in Pennsylvania to hold this honor for so many consecutive years.

The current 8 members of Lehighton Shade Tree Commission meet in borough hall on a monthly basis at 6:00 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. Guests and potential new members are always welcome.



UTILITY BILLING OFFICE

610-377-4004 | Monday – Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

Our Office will be closed all day on Friday, December 23, 2016, Monday, December 26, 2016 and Friday, December 30, 2016 for the Christmas Holiday. We will also be closed the entire day on Monday, January 2, 2017 for the New Year Holiday. The office will be closed Monday, February 20, 2017 for the Presidents' Day Holiday.

The Lehighton Borough Utility Billing Office consists of three full time clerks who are responsible for Electric, Sewer, Water and Garbage Accounts and Monthly Billing. The office also issues Moving Permits. There is a \$5.00 fee for a Moving Permit.

In an effort to better serve our customers, we are in the process of upgrading our Utility Billing Software. Implementation will occur in early Spring 2017. With the new software, you will now be able to pay bills online and see your Account History online. Please be aware that the bills will have a new look. If you have any changes to your contact information, such as telephone or billing address, please contact the Utility Billing Office at (610)377-4004, so we may update your information. Please be patient as we go through this transition.

Six Tips To Save On Your Electric Bills



◆ Plug energy leaks with weather stripping and caulking, and be sure your house is properly insulated – you can save up to 20% on heating and cooling bills, and make your home more comfortable.

◆ Clean or change filters regularly. A dirty furnace or air conditioning filter will slow airflow and make the system work harder to keep you warm or cool.

◆ Install a programmable thermostat to save up to 10% on cooling and heating costs.



◆ Wash clothes in cold water. Heating the water in a washer uses 90% of the energy used to wash clothes. According to Energy Star, by switching to cold water, you can save \$30-\$40 every year.



◆ Use energy efficient light bulbs including halogen incandescent's, CFL's, and LED's to reduce energy use by as much as 80%.

◆ Turn off all lights, appliances and electronics not in use. Better still, use a power strip and turn off devices and lights that are not in use to cut standby power, to save \$100 a year on your electricity bill.

ZONING/CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING CODE OFFICER

Tim Dow, Construction /Code Services | 610-377-4002 x219

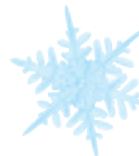
Monday 9:00am-12:00pm | Wednesday 9:00am-3:00pm | Friday 8:30am-4:30pm

The Code Officer is responsible for property maintenance issues, enforcing various codes, ordinances and regulations.

All Zoning, Building and Variance Applications can be found on the Borough's website or may be picked up in person at the Municipal Building. The fee Schedule is also available online.



Please be aware that with winter almost upon us, that there is a Sidewalk Snow Removal Ordinance. Within 48 hours after the last of the snow has fallen, the sidewalks shall be cleared of snow and/or ice. A three (3') wide walkway must be cleared. Snow and ice cannot be deposited in streets or alleys.





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or visit **warmulehighton.com**

The Lehighton Fire Department and Lehigh Fire Company #1

The Lehighton Fire Department and Lehigh Fire Company #1 have been in operation for since 1874 helping the community and all the citizens of Lehighton. The Lehighton Fire Department is the first due fire department to the Borough of Lehighton, Weissport Borough, and parts of Mahoning Township. The Lehighton Fire Department also responds mutual aid to many surrounding towns and their fire departments. The Lehighton Fire Department responds to a wide array of emergency calls such as: car fires, dwelling fires, structure fires, brush fires, motor vehicle accidents, high angle rescues, EMS assists, wires, automatic alarms, hazardous materials, and many other things. The Lehighton Fire Department also has divers for search, rescue, and recovery efforts. The Lehighton Fire Department would like to thank the Franklin Township Volunteer Fire Company and the Mahoning Valley Fire Company for their assistance. These two fire departments are close neighbors to Lehighton and are always there when needed. The Lehighton Fire Department would also like to thank the citizens of Lehighton and the surrounding area for their continuous support throughout the year.

Line Officers:

Fire Chief Patrick Mriss

Assistant Chief Michael Mriss

Safety Officer Paul Mriss

Captain Doug Nothstein

Lieutenants Scott Nothstein, Scott Smith and Rodney Rehnert

Today, 45 Active Volunteers serve the Lehighton Community. Anyone interested in volunteering with the Lehighton Fire Department should contact (610) 377-2449.



The department had moved into the new fire station located at 132 South Third Street in 2014.

Community
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thank
you

Lehighton Borough would like to thank the businesses that appear in this newsletter and to recognize them each as supporters and cornerstones of our community. For it is with their contributions that this newsletter has been produced at no charge to our residents.

Lehighton Police Department

Administration

Mayor Thomas Mase was elected to office in January 2014. Mayor Mase has a long-term police background. As Mayor, he is responsible for managing the Police Department, he serves as a primary figurehead of our Borough and may break tie votes of Council.

In December of 2013, Brian Biechy was promoted to Chief of Police of the Lehighton Borough Police Department. Chief Biechy started his law enforcement career with the Lehighton Borough Police Department in 1989. Prior to joining the Lehighton Borough Police Department he was a patrolman with the Bath Borough

Police Department and a part-time officer with the Slatington Police Department. Brian has spent his career in the patrol division, serves as a bike officer and has taught the department both as a TASER instructor and a Defensive Tactics instructor. Chief Biechy is also certified as an active shooter instructor with both NTOA and ALERT. He is a graduate of Northampton Area High School and holds an A.S. degree in Criminal Justice from Northampton Community College. Brian has also completed training from Penn State Justice & Safety Institute in Police Supervisor In-Service Training (POSIT).

Promotions

Patrolman Matthew Arner will be promoted to Criminal Investigator effective January 1, 2017. Criminal Investigator Arner states, "It has been a wonderful and rewarding experience serving the Borough of Lehighton as a patrolman for the last 10 years. I am grateful to be given the opportunity to serve as the department's criminal investigator and am looking to provide the same determination and enthusiasm for my new position.

Retirements

Sergeant Joseph Lawrence joined the Lehighton Borough Police Department in 1985. He began his career with Summit Hill Police Department. Sergeant Lawrence started his career in Lehighton as a patrolman, worked his way to Corporal and had been promoted to his current rank Sergeant. During his tenure with the Lehighton Borough Police Department Joe has been a Firearms Instructor, a DARE instructor and on numerous occasions has been Officer-in-Charge in the absence of a Chief.

Prescription Return Program

The department offers several community oriented activities including the Prescription Return Program. For those wishing to participate in the program, the Med Return box is located in the police department foyer and is accessible Monday through Friday 8:30 - 4:30. To date the Department has taken back over 200 lbs. in prescription narcotics since its inception in 2014.



Child Safety Seat Program

Officer Matthew Bender is a Certified Child Safety Seat Technician. Anyone wishing to have their child restraint system checked can contact him through the Police Department at 610-377-4003.

COMMUNITY

The Department also participates in community activities such as National Night Out, Trick or Treat and community parades.

The Department has a secretarial staff who they could not do without. The Full-Time Secretary, Karen Reichard has been with the Borough for 29 years. We would also like to welcome our new part time clerk, Stephany Rehrig. Both not only take great pride in their work but also actively participate in community events with the Police Department. In most cases, they plan the majority of the department's outreach and community efforts.



Retirement Letter from Sergeant Joseph Lawrence

I personally want to thank all of the individuals who have, in some way, touched and guided myself throughout the past 31 ½ years. While serving on the Lehighton Police Department I have always tried to serve our residents in a respectful and courteous manner. My heartfelt appreciation is extended to Borough Council members from my initial hire date of July 22, 1985, through my assignments of Corporal and Sergeant. You gave me the opportunity to experience and lead segments of this Department in a balanced, uniform style from the bottom up, which I had always believed to be the most effective management style.

To the various Borough Managers, Mayors and Chiefs, I thank you for allowing me to have a voice in the direction of this Department making it a highly credible, honest and respectable organization.

To the Officers of this Department and the surrounding communities, we had a very unique relationship even prior to the advent of Regionalized Police Departments. We found a way to work as ONE Unit, helping each other while serving everyone in a consistent and reliable manner. The camaraderie we had will be everlasting, making it very difficult for people to understand who had not experienced it.

To my Family, I Thank You for standing with me, especially during periods when I missed School, Sporting and other Social Events, due to Department commitments. Your understanding gave me a sense of ease during these absences.

As I retire, I trust that the Department can continue to work together both from the bottom up and the top down, as a cohesive group, with respect and understanding for every member. This will create an atmosphere, conducive for interacting with the public in a most professional manner, just as you would want yourself, Family or Friends to experience.

Thank You again for your support and guidance throughout these memorable years.

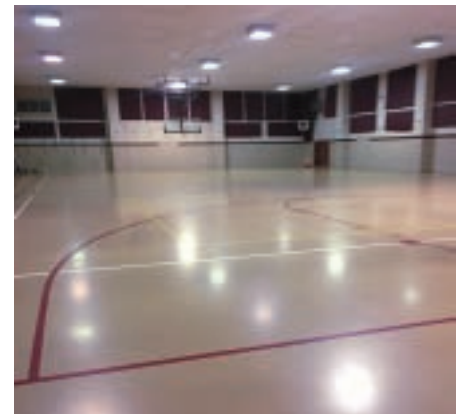
Lehighton Recreation Center

Our Recreation/Pool director manages the Recreation Center, Swimming Pool, Parks, and the PFC Clyde Houser Building. Lehighton is the only Municipality in Carbon County that has a full time Director and Staff. We pride ourselves in our Recreation Program and offering opportunities to people of all ages.

The Borough has recently created a new Park & Recreation Board to plan and host Community Events. The Board will need volunteers to assist with these Events. We will provide more information in our next Edition.

Park Rules

- Hours: 8:00am – 10:00pm
- No Littering
- No Smoking
- No Dogs Allowed within the Park
- No Alcoholic Beverages
- No Bike Riding on Walkways
- Do Not Injure, Deface, Remove or Cut any Trees, Shrubs, Turf, Buildings, Structures
- Do Not Injure, Deface or Destroy and Park Signs or Equipment
- Do Not Disturb or Annoy Others
- No Fires in Parks Except in Stoves and Fireplaces Maintained for this Purpose and Located by the Authority of the Borough Manager



Located at 243 South 8th Street, the Center offers a Youth Program starting on November 15, 2016 and ending the beginning of April, 2017.

The Program is held from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings for Grades Fourth thru Eighth. Grades Ninth thru Twelfth may participate from 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

In July, 2017 we will also offer a youth program from 9:00 am to 11:45 am. More information will be in our next edition. All programs are free.

The Center has a variety of activities. The center acts as a Senior Center in the morning, Party Rentals on Weekends. Different organizations also utilize the Center such as Crossfit, Weight Watchers, and Zumba.

We are in the process of renovating the Basketball Court and Tennis Courts at the grove. We will be creating a League for adults and our youth. The Borough will also host a Basketball Camp for the youth in the morning. More information will be available in the Spring. Contact Tom Evans for more information at 570-294-4532.

Household Stormwater Management – Winter De-Icing

As snow piles up in the winter, we often turn to salt to melt snow and ice. Salt, however, causes adverse environmental impacts, especially on our streams and rivers, our drinking water source in Lehighton. Excess salt can saturate and destroy a soil's natural structure and result in more erosion to our waterways. High concentrations of salt can damage and kill vegetation. Salt poses the greatest danger to fresh water ecosystems and fish. Studies in New York have shown that as salt concentrations increase in a stream, biodiversity decreases. Excess salt can seep into groundwater and stormwater runoff. Effective ice control can help prevent excess salt runoff to our waterways.

There are many alternatives to salt including potassium chloride, calcium chloride and magnesium chloride, corn processing byproducts, and calcium magnesium acetate (CMA). Most can be found in your local hardware stores under various trade names, so check the labels for chemical content. While these alternatives can be spread in a dry form or sprayed as a liquid, their best use occurs when they are used with salt. They tend to increase the efficiency of salt thereby reducing the amount that needs to be applied. When over-applied, all chloride compounds can be harmful to the environment. Nonchloride corn byproducts recycled from mills and breweries have been shown to be effective de-icers as well. While they are often advertised as organic or natural, they can have extremely high phosphorus content, a major water pollutant. Numerous studies have shown calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) to be the most environmentally benign de-icer. Many Northern States use CMA on roads in sensitive areas (wetlands, endangered species' habitat, drinking water supply, etc.). A couple of disadvantages with CMA however, is that it does not work well below 25° Fahrenheit and it is the most expensive de-icer. Because all de-icers can be harmful to the environment when applied in excess, the best strategy is to reduce the use of these chemicals as much as possible.

- * The first line of defense should simply be **to shovel sidewalks and pathways** to keep them clear and to prevent ice from forming. Also, consider that salt and de-icers are not effective when more than 3 inches of snow have accumulated.
- * **Consider the Temperature.** Salt and calcium magnesium acetate (CMA) have a much slower effect on melting snow and ice at temperatures below 25° Fahrenheit.
- * Track winter weather and **only use salt and de-icers when a storm is about to come through.**
- * **Apply de-icing products discriminately**, focusing on high use areas and slopes where traction is critical. Apply the least amount necessary to get the job done. This will save money in product costs and also help minimize property damage to paved surfaces, vehicles, and vegetation.
- * Reduce salt and other chemicals **by adding sand** for traction.
- * **Become familiar with various de-icing products and wetting agents** such as magnesium chloride and calcium chloride, which can improve the effectiveness of salt and reduce the amount needed.
- * **If you observe ongoing issues of ineffective ice management** or examples of poor application, such as excess piles of road salt left to disperse, share your concerns with the property manager of your residence or business, or with the Borough Public Works Department.
- * **Plant native vegetation** that is salt tolerant in stormwater drainage swales and ponds that may receive salt-laden runoff. Not only will these native species have a greater chance for survival, but they will continue to act as an effective buffer for our local waterways.
- * **Store salt and other products** on an impervious (impenetrable) surface, such as a basement floor, to prevent ground contamination. Also store products in a dry, covered area to prevent stormwater runoff.

The Lehigh Area Pool Pals (LAPP), Then and Now

The Lehigh Area Pool Pals (LAPP), a group of dedicated and committed citizens from Lehigh and surrounding communities was formed in July of 2006. The main purpose for our organizing was to attempt to raise enough money to refurbish Baer Memorial swimming pool. The pool had been closed for the past two years.

Our group is made up of individuals with many unique but complementary skills and talents, however, without a doubt the strongest attribute we all possessed was perseverance. We knew that raising enough money to reconstruct the pool would not be an easy task however we all agreed we would do whatever it took to achieve our goal so the children and residents of Lehigh and surrounding areas could once again enjoy spending their summers at the pool, thus, our current mission statement; “Creating Lifetime Memories”.

Some of our fund raising efforts included selling Strawberry sundaes, hot dogs, ice cream, road rally’s, alumni basketball games, bingo, dances, yard sales, karaoke contests, etc. As our fund raising efforts continued, it was rewarding to see the community rally around us. Elementary schools held car washes and yard sales, oil dealers donated fuel oil, community festival proceeds were donated to our cause and businesses came forth to pledge money. We had the momentum behind us and all of a sudden our goal started to feel achievable. One of the most inspirational quotes used to describe our group was shared by a reporter of the local paper when he called us “the little engine that could”. In 2007 we were honored as the Volunteer group of the year by the Lehigh Chamber of Commerce and had the honor of serving as Grand Marshal for the Lehigh Halloween parade.

It was in 2008 that we were contacted by Speaker of the House Keith McCall who enthusiastically informed us we would be receiving a grant of \$500,000.00 that could be used toward a matching grant from DCNR. This combined with the \$113,000.00 that we raised assured us the new pool would now become a reality!

Following the opening of the pool, we elected to stay together as a group knowing how over the years we became a family. We changed our mission statement from “Save the Pool” to “Creating Lifetime Memories” We meet on a monthly basis on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm in borough hall and we would love to have new guests either attend a meeting or perhaps consider joining our ever-growing “family”. We continue to do fund raisers to support the running of the pool purchasing items like the stereo system and fish sliding board bought in 2016 and solar heating system installed in 2015.

We hope you have had the opportunity to experience our lovely pool. We also hope you get the chance to support our organization by attending our annual Cabin Fever Dance on February 25, 2017 and our Yard Sale/Basket Raffle on April 22, 2017. It is important to know that 100% of all money raised goes to supporting our beautiful pool!

Baer Memorial Swimming Pool

We Have Something for Everyone!!!

Zero Degree Entry – Flume Slides

Solar Heated Pool

Kiddie Pool – Food Court – Water Aerobics

Aquatic Zumba

Pavilion Rentals for Parties

**Our Updated Membership Flyer will
be on the Borough Website shortly**



LIGHT & POWER DEPARTMENT

Lonny Armbruster, Superintendent | Barry Fisher, Assistant Superintendent
610-377-4005 – Non-Emergency | Monday - Friday 7:00am-3:30pm

The Borough has owned and operated its own electric system since 1943. Our Department consists of our two Superintendents, two Linemen and two Apprentice Linemen, and a part time laborer with our superintendent's make up the team of highly qualified employees responsible for keeping the lights on in the Borough. Some duties of our Linemen include performing construction and maintenance work which includes transformer configuration, phasing, troubleshooting overhead and underground issues, switching and isolating devices and sizing services and transformers. We use all LED bulbs in our holiday decorations in the Borough and are switching our street lights to LED as we can.

The Borough's substation, located in Franklin Township, transforms 69,000 volt electricity into 12,000 volts and distributes it to approximately 2,580 customers. We recently upgraded the power lines in the southern end of town and will begin upgrading Iron & Bridge Streets this Spring.

The department is gearing up to trim trees around the power lines. This helps keep outages from occurring in severe weather conditions. If you need to trim trees on your property please call a professional tree trimmer who knows the proper way to trim without bringing down our power lines. It will save the homeowner from receiving a large bill from our department coming out to repair the damage.

Storms can cut off power for long periods of time and leave you in the dark. That's the last place we want you to be. We have personnel available 24 hours a day, every day, on call. We are committed to keeping your lights on and providing you with reliable service. However, if your lights do go out, you can be sure we will make every effort to get your power back on as soon as possible. We do our best to see that all the street lights are on but occasionally a light will go out and we miss it. There are plates on the poles with a letter and pole number. This is the information needed for customers calling to report a burned out streetlight. Customers can call 610-377-4005 to report any street light issues they see.

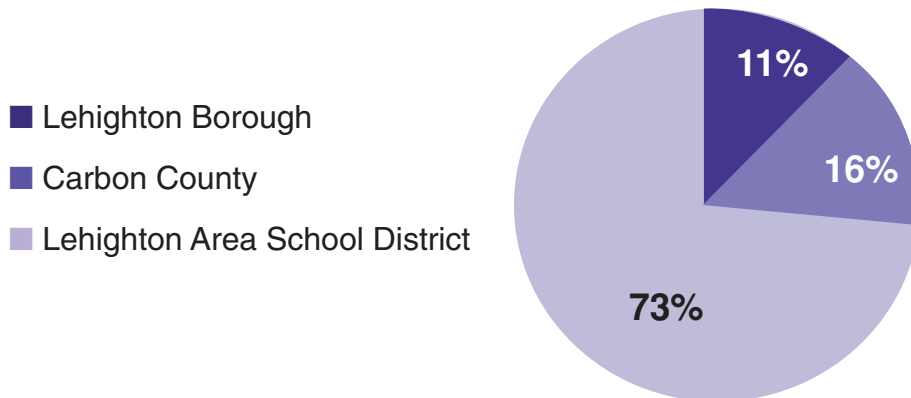
Storm Awareness – Downed power lines could be submerged in snow, ice or water. Treat all downed or hanging power lines as if they are energized. They do not need to be arcing or moving to be live lines and deadly. Please contact 911 if you see a downed line. We would rather be called out and find nothing than have a customer injured. If you use a generator, make sure it has a transfer safety switch. This prevents electricity from traveling back through the powerlines (known as back feed) creating danger for anyone near powerlines and to the crews trying to restore power.

We recently built a new garage to house our fleet of trucks and hosted our 2nd Open House during Public Power Week, held the first week in October, to encourage our customers to come out and meet our crew, see our facility, ask questions, get a bite to eat and take home a few freebies. We are local people serving our community and want our customers to get to know us on a personal and professional level.

We look forward to touching base with our customers through this newsletter and welcome your questions that we can use to provide information in our next publication.



Where Your Real Estate Tax Dollar Goes (2016)



We will be providing details on the 2017 Budget in our next publication.

A Trail Town

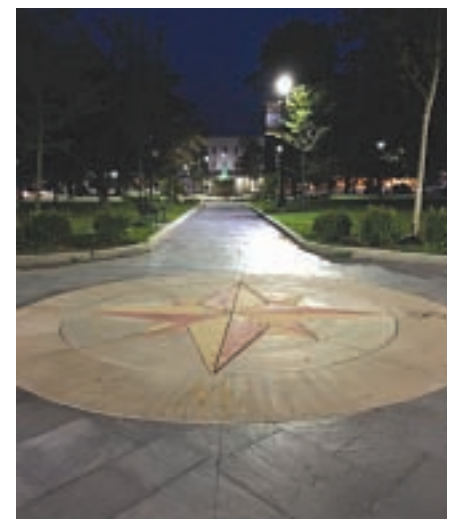
Over the last five years, the Borough of Lehighton has partnered with the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor (D&L) on creating a new identity for the Borough as a trail town. In addition to the D&L, the borough has partnered with Carbon County, Lehighton Sewer Authority, Red Castle Brewery and Pennsylvania Department of Natural Resources in the Carbon County Connectivity Project. For years, there has been countless recommendations to use our largest natural amenity, the Lehigh River, as a driving force for downtown development. We have listened to those recommendations and welcomed the D&L trail system in the Borough. We are now part of the 165-mile trail stretching through eastern Pennsylvania from Wilkes-Barre to Bristol. Our riverfront and trail system has potential for significant outdoor recreational uses and activities adjacent to the downtown. New development on Lehigh Drive and Sergeant Stanley Hoffman Boulevard is being promoted. The trail is important for the health of our community, the health to our existing businesses and to developers. Please take advantage of the opportunity our partnership has provided for our residents and visitors.



Come Visit the Newly Renovated Colonel Jacob Weiss Park

With grant funding from the DCED Greenways, Trails & Recreation Program and DCED Multimodal funds, the Borough had recently renovated Colonel Jacob Weiss Park in the heart of our downtown. Park enhancements include new sidewalks, curbing, walkways, concrete medallions, storm water improvements, landscaping and site furnishings. The Colonel Jacob Weiss Statue was cleaned and the base was repaired. Parking meters were removed to create free parking in the area of the park. New ornamental lighting was installed by our Light & Power Department. The Public Works Department has taken much pride in reviving the new grass and landscaping. The park also serves as a connection point to the new trail and an interpretive panel can be found on First Street. The memorial pavers were relocated around the fountain. The park serves as a focal point in our community. Please come and enjoy the new face of the Colonel Jacob Weiss Park.

Stay tuned for more information on the memorial pavers and bench plaques.



LEHIGHTON BOROUGH

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FALL / WINTER 2016



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Who Needs Building Codes?

We all do – whether in our homes, offices, schools, stores, factories or places of entertainment. **We rely on the safety of structures that surround us in our everyday life.** The public need for protection from disaster due to fire, structural collapse and general deterioration underscores the need for modern codes and their administration. Most aspects of building construction (electrical wiring, heating, sanitary facilities) can represent a potential hazard to building occupants and users. **Building codes provide safeguards.** Although no code can eliminate all risks, reducing risks to an acceptable level helps.

Who is Lehigh County Borough's Codes Enforcer?

Barry Isett and Associates, Inc. is the appointed Building Code Official, Zoning and Code Enforcement Officer for Lehigh County Borough, appointed in 2013. As certified inspectors, our responsibility is the protection of the health, safety and welfare of the public by creating safe buildings and communities. This is accomplished through the enforcement of federal, state and local ordinances adopted by the Borough.

We take pride in providing a professional level of assistance to the community. Enforcement often begins with a written letter (Notice of Violation) to identify items that are out of compliance, the code requirement, a timeframe for completion and a fine if no action is taken to abate the issues. These items are required to be listed in the notice and may seem overwhelming and are often interpreted as demanding and offering no help. In fact, that is not the case. The Borough wants compliance with codes to ensure health and safety for the community. Isett will work with you throughout the process and provide guidance. Cooperation on your part is needed in order to achieve a successful completion of the project.

Property Maintenance and Quality of Life (QQL)

One of the Borough's highest priorities is to work with property owners and tenants to preserve and maintain the neighborhoods and commercial areas. The presence of property nuisances detracts from the enjoyment and quality of life in the community. Isett handles complaints related to private property nuisances, both residential and commercial. You can assist Code Enforcement by reporting any condition you believe to be a nuisance.

Together, we can keep Lehigh County Borough a beautiful place in which to live and do business.

*For more information, see the Zoning & Building section of Lehigh County Borough's website.

UNDERSTANDING LEHIGH COUNTY BOROUGH'S CODE ENFORCEMENT