



Mountville Borough

NEWSLETTER

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FALL 2020 / WINTER 2021

MOUNTVILLE BOROUGH OFFICE

21 East Main Street
Mountville, PA 17554

HOURS

Mon. - Fri.: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Break and errands 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.

TELEPHONE

Office: 717-285-5547
Fax: 717-285-2094

www.mountvilleborough.com

MEETING DATES

Council Meetings
2nd & 4th Monday - 7:00 p.m.

Borough Authority
2nd Thursday - 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
3rd Monday - 7:00 p.m. (as needed)

Zoning Hearing
(as needed)

MOUNTVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

120 College Avenue
Mountville, PA 17554
717-285-3231

www.lancasterpubliclibrary.org

HOURS

Mon. - Thurs.: 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

WEST HEMPFIELD TOWNSHIP POLICE

3476 Marietta Avenue
Lancaster, PA 17601

Non-emergency Calls:
717-285-5191



BE A *Good* NEIGHBOR

Regardless of which neighborhood you live in, there are some basic etiquette rules you should follow to be a good neighbor. The ultimate goal is to live in peace and harmony, and even though that is not always possible, you can try to do whatever it takes to prevent hostilities and long-lasting hard feelings.

Be Mindful of Your Trash: Please remember to properly seal your trash in either securely tied bags or in refuse containers with secure lids to prevent trash from blowing through the Borough on windy days. Do not put trash out days ahead of pickup time as doing so may invite visits by unwanted critters.

Be a Responsible Pet Owner: If you own a dog, please maintain a quiet atmosphere as often as possible. Even dogs which stay inside will occasionally bark, but remember incessant barking can be disturbing to your neighbors.

Be Generous with Compliments: Let your neighbors know what you like about them: their kindness, their Christmas decorations, their kids. Good neighbors notice and say something.

Be a Respectful Party Host: Outdoor parties are the best, but going late and being loud can be annoying to your neighbors. Keeping music and conversations at a reasonable noise level when you are throwing a party is just common sense. You should definitely have fun in your own home, but consider your neighbors' needs, and limit the noise and activity during sleeping hours. Additionally, ask your guests to park in the driveway or in front of your house. Make sure they don't block someone else's driveway.

Be a Proud Homeowner: You want your home to have curb appeal, but you may not realize that your neighbors do, too. A messy yard and dirty facade impact the appearance of the entire neighborhood, not just your home, so make sure you:

- Keep lawn equipment, toys, and other items off your lawn when not in use.
- Mow the lawn regularly.
- Keep up on landscaping and gardening to avoid dead or overgrown plants.
- Trim trees, bushes and other plants that sit close to your neighbor's property.
- Touch up paint and clean the outside of your home when necessary.

Take pride in your home and your entire community will benefit.

Be the Neighbor You'd Like to Have: OR "Treat others as you'd like to be treated". Abiding by the golden rule is one of the best qualities of a good neighbor because it helps you remember to treat others with kindness. The way you treat your neighbors often affects how they treat you, so you might want to:

- Offer to help them carry groceries in.
- Shovel their walkway if it snows.
- Help maintain their yard.

Even if your neighbors do not return these good deeds, they may offer to help in other ways. You never know when you might need someone to watch your home or your pets, and being in good standing with your neighbors acts as a safety net.

(Continued on pg. 4)



Mountville Borough Council Has a New Member



Mountville Borough welcomes its newest Council Member, Matt Auker, who was appointed to the Council in March and is serving in the capacity as Chairperson of Public Works: Streets. Matt has lived in the Borough for the past ten years and has been married for nine years.

His family consists of his wife, four kids, one dog and one cat. His oldest children are very active in sports and Matt is confident the younger ones will be as well. In addition to being a licensed realtor, he has been an operations manager for the past three and one-half years for a real estate investment group where he manages rental properties, helps coordinate property acquisitions, and oversees day-to-day operations of property rehab projects.

Matt's Vision for Mountville Borough:

To continue to make improvements for the greater good of the Borough. For the residents to be proud of their community, feel right at home, and for residents to want to participate in Borough activities. I would like residents to have trust and confidence in local government by making decisions based on value/merit, rather than what may be popular at the moment.

Matt's Minutiae:

First job: I started moving lawns in my town when I was about 12 years old. I normally made \$5-\$10 per lawn. On a good week, I'd bring home \$30-\$40.

Dream job: To be financially independent and be able to take care of other peoples' needs when they aren't able to.

Bucket list item I've checked off my list: Alligator hunting on the Cumberahee River in South Carolina with my grandfather and cousin in the summer of 2018.

Talent/skill I wish I had: To be able to fly a plane and helicopter.

Favorite weekend activity: Spending time with family and friends.

Famous person I'd like to meet: Benjamin Franklin. He was very instrumental in so much of America's early history and beginnings. He was also very accomplished and had a wealth of knowledge that is still relevant today.

Interesting information:

■ My wife and I met country line dancing 18 years ago. We were avid dancers (3-5 times a week) for 10+ years before starting a family.

■ My family and I were able to participate in filming commercials and photo shoots for Hershey Park for two years. I don't know if our scenes or shots ever made the final cut, but it was still a cool experience for all of us.



With the approach of winter and the possibility of accumulating snow, Mountville Borough asks for your patience and cooperation during a snow event. The Borough is not permitted to assist residents by clearing their driveway, sidewalk, etc. Please remember the following safety tips to protect yourselves and assist our operators to be as efficient as possible in the snow removal process:

- If you have driveways and garages, park your vehicles off street. This will allow the snow removal team to clear the Borough streets curb to curb and helps prevent having your vehicle(s) plowed in.
- Unfortunately, it is impossible for snowplows to avoid having snow placed at the bottom of driveways. It will be helpful if you shovel snow in your driveway to the right side of your driveway (as you face the road). In addition, clear the area immediately to the left of your driveway which will allow the plow to unload before reaching your driveway and avoid the bulk of the snow to be pushed back onto the driveway.
- Do not shovel, blow, or plow the snow from your driveway and/or sidewalk into the roadway at any time. This creates hazardous driving conditions and is a violation of State and Borough laws.
- Mountville Borough has an ordinance that states that a pathway of at least three feet (3) in width must be cleared within 24 hours after the snow has ceased. There are penalties that may apply if this ordinance is not obeyed. This is for the safety of all pedestrians, especially our school children.
- Please keep storm drains opened and fire hydrants cleared that are near your residence.
- Make sure you have emergency supplies for your entire household in case you end up having to remain in your home for a few days. Be a good Samaritan and check on your elderly neighbors to see if they need someone to run errands or remove the snow on their property.
- Take caution not to overexert yourself when shoveling snow. Take frequent breaks and drink plenty of fluids. Bend from your knees, not your back, to prevent back injury. Be careful not to overload your shovel. Try to push snow when possible instead of lifting it.
- Make sure that your snowblower is turned off before attempting to clear any snow that may clog the chute or any moving parts of the blower.
- Heavy snow, hard packed snow, or ice on a gas meter could temporarily stop the flow of natural gas and could create a safety hazard.
- If you must drive, make sure to give yourself enough time to get to your destination. Chances are, it will take longer than normal.
- Drivers - please be aware of children playing in the snow or sledding!

Christmas Tree Recycling

As part of your trash service, Mountville Borough offers curbside collection of your live Christmas tree. It may be placed at the curb for pick-up on **Friday, January 8th, 2021**. All trees must be contaminant-free prior to putting it out for pick-up. No tree stands, tree bags, wire, ornaments, lights, tinsel, etc. may remain on the tree or it will not be picked up by the trash hauler.





Mountville Memories - I Remember When...

Living in Mountville all my life I have so many memories but my fondest memories are from the many community events that were hosted by Mountville clubs and organizations. I looked forward to the Memorial Day Parade and the Festival that followed. Our family would head out to the Civic Center to hear a band, eat supper, and play the many homemade games run by the Lions Club. My grandmother helped make the foods such as hamburger barbecue, chicken corn soup, and cakes and pies. I loved to try my luck at the Fishing Pond. The host would announce "it's a girl around 6 years old" as I lowered the basket attached to my fishing rod behind a curtain. I was always delighted with the toy that I had "fished" out of the pond. I would run into friends and hurry to bet my pennies on which color the ball would drop into as Dan Witmer released the ball and yelled "Hi Ho Silver!" And of course, I tried to win a gold fish by throwing a ping pong ball into a fish bowl.

In 1964, the Mountville VFW Auxiliary headed the 150th Birthday of Mountville. It was called the "Sesqui-centennial." My grandmother made dresses and bonnets for my Mom, my sisters and me. Then she made matching outfits for our Barbie dolls. We joined the "Belles of Mountville" and we had to wear our outfits or get fined by the Sheriff and his deputies. Each day we had to have a specific item with us, such as a toothbrush or a bobbie pin, or we could be fined for not following the rules for the "Belles." My father belonged to the "Brothers of the Brush." The Brothers had a contest to see who could grow the longest beard. Dad had to buy a special "pin" and wear it because he was not allowed to have a beard at his job. He would be fined if he did not have that pin on. Sometimes the Sheriff and his deputies would decide to throw you in their wooden jail and you had to beg people to donate money to bail you out. It was fun because the whole town dressed up and took part.

I am fortunate that I got to grow up and live in Mountville. I have many cherished memories of the numerous community events that took place throughout my life. Mountville was (and is) a great place to live!

Submitted by lifelong Mountville Borough resident, Beth Hess, who has been an active participant in the community throughout her life. She has been involved with fundraising, planning and the organization of Mountville Parades and a variety of Mountville Community historical celebrations.



NOVEMBER 1, 2020 - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS

Remember to turn back your clocks one hour before going to bed on Saturday, October 31st. Standard time officially begins at 2:00 a.m. on November 1st, 2020.

This is the opportune time to change the batteries in all smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. This simple act could potentially result in saving a loved one's life or preventing serious injury to them. Remember to test all alarms monthly.

CHIEF'S CORNER

Chief Layden of the West Hempfield Township Police Department is sharing the following tips for electronic devices.

Keep Electronic Devices Safe

Tablets and cell phones provide instant communication with family and friends, as well as convenience and peace of mind, but you must keep them safe! Remember to follow these guidelines:

- Record serial numbers and keep them in a safe place at home.
- Activate tracking software. (Many devices have this for free).
- Lock your devices with passwords only you know.
- Change passwords often and do not store them on our device. Never lay your hand-held electronics down when out shopping, dining etc.
- Do not leave devices in your vehicle. Extreme temperatures can damage them and thieves frequently look inside parked cars for items to take.

Adhering to these simple tips can help to bring peace of mind as well as prevent you from being a potential victim of criminal activity.

Scoop Your Pet's Poop!

Eew, gross! You are out for a walk and you step in a pile of dog poop! Scenes like these may make the catchphrase, "Scoop the poop!" a well-deserved one, but more importantly, cleaning up after your pooch helps prevent the spread of parasites and disease. That's right. There are several risks to the health and wellbeing of your pet, as well as other pets and people, when animal waste is allowed to accumulate.

- Animal waste adds nitrogen to the water. Excess nitrogen depletes the oxygen in water necessary for beneficial underwater grasses, wildlife and fish.
- Animal waste may contain harmful organisms such as Giardia, Salmonella and E. coli that can be transmitted to humans and other animals by ingesting contaminated water as stormwater carries pet waste and other pollutants directly into waterways contributing to wastewater contamination.
- Roundworms and hookworms deposited by infected animals can live in the soil for long periods of time and be transmitted to other animals and humans.

As you can see, dog waste is a threat to the health of our children, degrades our town, contaminates our drinking water and transmits disease.

In summary, Poop Happens, and it's important to do your part! For the health, safety and enjoyment of everyone, Mountville Borough kindly reminds you to scoop your pet's poop (every time). And we thank all of you who already exemplify outstanding pet owner etiquette!



There's More to Trash Than Just Trash

Do you know that you are able to put more than just your weekly trash to the curb? The following services are available to Mountville residents:

Service	Fee	Item Limit
Oversized Item	\$15.00/tag	2 items/week
Yard Waste (In brown yard waste bag)	\$1.25/tag	No limit (30 lbs./bag)
Additional Trash (Over 5 bag limit)	\$1.25/tag	No limit (30 lbs./bag)
Leaves* (5 times/year)	FREE	No limit
White Goods/Appliances**	\$15.00/tag	No limit
Tires and Rims** (Tag needed for each)	\$3.00/tag	No limit
Batteries*** (Special bag required)	FREE	No limit

Tags can be purchased at the Mountville Borough Office during normal business hours. Cash, check or money order are accepted payment methods.

Items will be picked up on the regular trash day (Friday). The trash hauler **WILL NOT** pick up any items that are not properly tagged.

- * Leaf collections (every other week) start in October and end in December.
- ** Collections take place in April and October.
- *** Battery bag available at Borough Office. Should be placed next to recycling bin.



BOROUGH COUNCIL

- Philip S. Kresge *Mayor*
- Lenny D. Heisey *President*
- Christine D. Eshleman *Vice-President, Chair-General Government*
- Jesse D. Hersh *Chair-Public Safety: Planning & Zoning*
- Richard D. Spiegel *Chair-Public Safety: Police & Fire*
- Harry L. Morgan *Chair-Public Works: Health & Sanitation*
- Matthew T. Auker *Chair-Public Works: Streets*
- Jonah M. Eastep *Chair-Parks & Recreation*

BOROUGH EMPLOYEES

- Edward E. Benner *Public Works*
- David N. Pott *Public Works*
- Pamela J. Mitchell *Secretary/Treasurer*
- Doris A. Reisinger *Assistant Secretary*



READY OR NOT, HERE IT COMES!

With the upcoming fall election, political candidate signs will become an inevitable part of our landscape. Zoning regulations are in place with regards to the posting of signs by candidates within the Borough limits. Signs can be posted by the contenders (or their representatives) sixty (60) days prior to the election and must be removed within seven (7) days after the election. Signs cannot be attached to utility poles, traffic signal poles, fire hydrants, trees or fences. They may not be posted in the road right-of-way and should not hinder sight lines. Borough personnel can remove and discard signs that are posted in the aforementioned areas. Homeowners must grant permission for an election sign to be placed on their property by a candidate or his/her representative.

Don't forget to vote in this year's General Election on **Tuesday, November 3rd, 2020.**

Be a Good Neighbor

(Continued from pg. 1)

When an effort is made to be a good neighbor a sense of well-being and community will be created. The neighborhood will be more appealing, and you will be more content in your home. An extra benefit is knowing that you and your neighbors will look out for each other and are available for help. Many thanks to those Borough residents who make the effort to be that good neighbor, which helps to make Mountville Borough a better community for all.

DATES TO REMEMBER - FALL/WINTER 2020-2021

- Community Yard Sale** Saturday, September 19th
- Yard Waste Separation Ends** Friday, October 2nd
- White Goods & Tires Pick-Up** Friday, October 23rd (Purchase stickers at Borough Office)
- Fall Leaf Pick-Up Dates** Friday, October 23rd, November 6th & 20th, and December 4th & 18th
- Trick-or-Treat Night** Friday, October 30th – 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- Offices Closed** November 26th & 27th, December 25th, January 1st & 18th, February 15th, and April 2nd
- Christmas Concert** Sunday, December 6th – 2:30 p.m. – Mountville Church of the Brethren (tentative date)
- Cookies with Santa** Saturday, December 12th – 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Mountville Fire Company
- Christmas Tree Pick-Up** Friday, January 8th, 2021

**Please note: Dates listed may be modified or canceled. Contact the Borough office or check the Borough's website for updated information.*

Please clip and save as a reminder of these special dates.

