

Borough of BRIDGEPORT



Fall/Winter
2022 - 2023



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

Around Town

VACANCY: SEEKING AN ALTERNATE MEMBER FOR THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Bridgeport Borough is seeking candidates for the position of Alternate on the Bridgeport Civil Service Commission. This commission has the responsibility of administering over the testing and hiring process for new full-time Bridgeport police officers. The Bridgeport CSC is a three-person commission with an alternate as well. We have one commissioner who will be stepping down from his role in the near future, so the hope is that this alternate will be able to sit in on meetings and evaluations over the next several months, learn from the current commissioners, and ultimately become a full-fledged member of the Civil Service Commission in the very near future. Residents should submit a letter of interest that contains 1) a brief background bio and 2) why you are interested in this role to Keith Truman, Borough Manager, at ktruman@bridgeportborough.org. This position will remain open until it is filled. Thank you for your interest!

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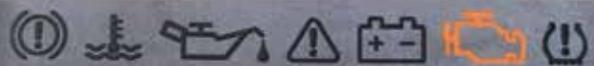
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RESIDENTIAL TRASH AND RECYCLING FEES TO INCREASE IN 2023

Bridgeport Borough provides community-wide residential trash and recycling collection services through a contracted third-party provider, which is currently J.P. Mascaro & Sons (JPM). Our current contract expires at the end of 2022; therefore, Borough Council and Administration recently went through the process of advertising the contract specifications and soliciting for bids. As part of the advertising process, local trash haulers were made aware that this contract was up for bid and were encouraged to submit a proposal in order to foster competition and generate an array of providers to choose from. The Borough received inquiries from several different local trash haulers regarding the bid. However, when the deadline to submit a bid proposal passed on October 6, Bridgeport had only received a proposal from one trash hauler – the incumbent contractor JPM. The proposal from JPM includes annual pricing for the next five years – from 2023 to 2027. The JPM proposal includes an unprecedented increase starting in CY 2023 compared to what Bridgeport Borough and its ratepayers have historically been accustomed to. Our contracted cost for CY 2022 with JPM is currently \$466,116, whereas the proposed CY 2023 rate is \$745,752. This constitutes an increase of \$279,636 or a 60% increase from year to year. In order to pay for this increase in contract cost, please be aware that the **annual residential trash fee will be increased from \$320 to \$472, or from \$80 per quarter to \$118 per quarter, per household beginning January 1, 2023.** Bridgeport Borough realizes that this is a sizeable fee increase. However, there are no other viable options available to the community. Residents and ratepayers may be inclined to think that opening the Borough to a “free-market” system – where residents are permitted to select their own hauler – could result in a better rate for residents. However, there are several reasons why this would not work in our community. In speaking with other communities that have recently negotiated a new trash collection contract, they are all experiencing similar price increases, with vendors pointing to labor shortages and skyrocketing fuel, personnel, and insurance costs as the reason behind the spike in service costs. Again, Bridgeport Borough Council is sensitive to the impact this increase in contract cost will have on its residents. Bridgeport Borough always tries to keep the financial interests of our taxpayers in the highest regard – a fact that is evidenced by not having increased real estate tax millage in ten years. However, with “pass through costs” such as trash and sewer fees, ultimately these are more often influenced by external factors like the national economy and regulatory mandates. Residents should expect to receive additional information regarding the trash contract from both Bridgeport Borough and JPM as we progress closer to the beginning of 2023.

CHESTER VALLEY TRAIL UPDATE

To those who have endured the ongoing traffic and lane reconfigurations along DeKalb Street but were unsure of the nature of the project – this construction is part of the Chester Valley Trail project. The Chester Valley Trail Extension is a 3.8-mile extension that will link the existing 14.5-mile portion of the Chester Valley Trail, which currently runs from Exton to King of Prussia, to the Schuylkill River Trail in Norristown. Once complete a separate lane for bicyclists, protected by guard railing, will supplant a portion of one of the two southbound lanes that used to carry traffic from Norristown over the Schuylkill River Bridge through Bridgeport leading up to Fourth Street. Also, there has been some confusion from some who believed this to be a borough project, but please understand that this project is being conducted by Montgomery County through the trails department of the Montgomery County Planning Commission. The good news for residents and motorists is that the project appears to be nearing its end, as county officials have informed the borough that the project should be completed at some point in December 2022.



THANK YOU TO THE BUSINESSES

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



LIHWAP may be able to assist you with overdue water and wastewater bills.

What is LIHWAP?

The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a temporary emergency program to help low-income families pay overdue water bills. LIHWAP is a grant. You do not have to repay it.

To receive help...

- Apply starting January 4, 2022.
- You don't have to be on public assistance.
- You need to have an unpaid water bill.
- You can either rent or own your home.

How does LIHWAP work?

LIHWAP Crisis grants may be available if you have an emergency situation and are in jeopardy of losing your water service. You can receive one Crisis grant for your drinking water service and one Crisis grant for your wastewater service, up to \$2,500 each.

Crisis situations include:

- Past-due water bills.
- Termination of utility service.
- Danger of having utility service terminated (received a notice that service will be shut off within the next 60 days).

How do I apply?

- Apply online at www.compass.state.pa.us.
- Request an application by calling the Statewide Customer Service Center at 877-395-8930 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired.
- Applications are available at your local county assistance office.

To apply, you will need:

- Names of people in your household;
- Dates of birth for all household members;
- Social Security numbers for all household members;
- Proof of income for all household members; and
- A recent water bill.

Who is eligible?

You may qualify for a LIHWAP grant if:

- You must have an overdue water bill that you are responsible for paying.
- Your household income meets the following income guidelines:

INCOME GUIDELINES	
Household Size	Maximum Annual Income
1	\$ 19,320
2	\$ 26,130
3	\$ 32,940
4	\$ 39,750
5	\$ 46,560
6	\$ 53,370
7	\$ 60,180
8	\$ 66,990
9	\$ 73,800
10	\$ 80,610
Each Additional Person Add \$ 6,810	

After your application is processed, you will receive a written notice that will tell you if you qualify. If eligible, it will tell you the amount of your grant.



THE MAYOR'S CORNER



Happy Autumn, Bridgeport! I would be remiss if I didn't start by thanking the Bridgeport Police and Fire Departments for putting on such an excellent array of programming to support the lifesaving mission of Public Safety Month this October. With education running from a Narcan Workshop to a Gun Safety panel, these teams have provided some key classes for our residents, and I thank them for their efforts!

Shown from left to right: Bob Kelly, Laura Houck, and Mayor Beth Jacksier.

I've had quite a busy year so far with my Mayoral responsibilities – all of them having the intention of making this an even better community for us all to live in. In addition to attending our Council meetings which meet on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, I've been holding Office Hours each month. If you have yet to attend, the idea is pretty straightforward – I open my office on the first floor of Borough Hall during a weeknight from 7:00-8:30 PM or on a Saturday morning from 10:00 AM-12:00 PM and residents are welcome to join me to discuss anything on their minds. Have a question for me or a concern you'd like addressed that you think I can help with? Follow my Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/beth.jacksier> and you'll be notified when I announce my office hours for the month. In August, I also started a newsletter that gives regular updates about events, such as Office Hours, which you can sign up for here: <https://bit.ly/3Bda3t2>.

My newsletter is also a great opportunity to learn about other exciting happenings from around Bridgeport. For example, I was able to publicize our annual Bridgeport Night Out event, one of our biggest family fun events of the year which helps to promote relations between our police officers and residents. Did you hear about an event that you wanted to attend but couldn't make it? The newsletter is also a great place to see photos and read re-caps from events like our first ever Spray Down event with the Bridgeport Fire Department! Don't forget to supplement my information with what comes from the Borough, too. The Borough Blast gives timely reminders about projects that I'm working on in addition to bigger Borough happenings. Sign up here: <https://www.bridgeportborough.org/subscribe>.



As I write this, planning for the annual Bridgeport 5K is in full swing; registrations are booming, sponsors are eagerly jumping on board (but more are always welcomed!), and volunteers are being sought to assist on the course. A key aspect of the Bridgeport community which I admire greatly is our collective passion for coming together to celebrate the best of what we have to offer. One of the most crucial ways that any of our residents can pitch in is by volunteering their time; whether it's showing up to a Council Meeting, joining a committee like the Sustainability Advisory Committee, or volunteering at an event, like being a race marshal for the Bridgeport 5K. A new occasion that residents have to get involved is with the newly established Bridgeport Founders' Day! On February 27th, 1851, Bridgeport became incorporated as a Borough. To celebrate, residents and business owners alike will have the opportunity in late February to commemorate this important date by participating in Founders' Day. Residents of any residency length are welcomed and encouraged to join the steering committee, which holds the purpose of planning this inaugural event. If you have want to help plan this event, please reach out to me via email at bjacksier@bridgeportborough.org.



Also on the horizon is the Festive Lights celebration & Small Business Saturday, both occurring on Saturday, November 26th, the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Join the Festive Lights Committee and Growing Bridgeport Together for their annual combined event to ring in the holiday season and welcome a certain white-bearded friend into Bridgeport with singing, shopping, fireworks, and more! While out and about, make sure to celebrate Small Business Saturday by shopping at our unique selection of local businesses and sharing your great finds on social media with hashtags [#BridgeportPA](#), [#ShopLocalinBridgeportPA](#), and [#SmallTownBigCommunity](#) so the rest of us can marvel over your exceptional stocking-stuffer finds. Looking into the new year after Bridgeport Founders' Day, I plan on hosting a celebration for our community's furry friends! Expect to hear more about this day of festivities honoring Bridgeport's best friends in early 2023.

So far, this year has been a whirlwind of fun in our busy little Borough, and I only expect it to increase. I have a ton of exciting ideas to share and I am looking forward to continuing along this adventure-filled path with you all. Please remember to contact me if you have any ideas of your own to pioneer – I'm happy to brainstorm and team up to make your suggestion a reality. As always, reach out at any time via email or by phone at 610-272-1811 x244. I look forward to hearing from you or seeing you at around town!

Mayor Beth Jacksier



POLICE TRAINING UPDATE

The Bridgeport Borough Police Department (BPD), along with Mayor Beth Jacksier, have been extremely busy in the last six months. In response to the need for additional emergency service trained personnel, we began the training process for Water Rescue Safety Technician certification for five police officers. This will complement the seventeen members of the Bridgeport Fire Department that are awaiting the final stage of training with riverine boat operations. Training for active shooter scenarios is ongoing with the assistance of Montgomery County SWAT. This would enable our officers, from disparate agencies, to work together if the need arose.

BPD EMBARKS ON HIRING PROCESS, PLANS FOR RETIREMENT OF VETERAN OFFICER

BPD, through the Bridgeport Civil Service Commission, has initiated a full-time patrol officer hiring process. Eleven candidates applied; ten of which participated in the written test and physical agility examinations. From that pool we had six candidates advance to the oral boards in September. The borough expects to select a final candidate in October or November.

accomplishments. For all that know Officer Pizza, he has served with integrity and is a wealth of institutional knowledge that allowed for all of Bridgeport's residents to be just that much safer. We will be sorry to see John leave in early 2023 but wish him the best!



Officer Justin Broskey

Bridgeport's newest part-time officer, Justin Broskey, 27, of Warrington, PA, was sworn in on September 13. Justin is a certified EMT and has worked in hospital settings as a medical professional. Justin is a 2013 graduate of Central Bucks HS, a 2018 graduate of Penn State University with a B.S. in Criminology, and a 2021 graduate of Temple University's Municipal Police Academy. Broskey enjoys serving as a Warrington Fire Company fire fighter, the beach and physical fitness.



Officer John Pizza

This hiring process is part of the planning process in relation to the imminent retirement of long-time officer, John Pizza. Pizza, a Bridgeport native, began with BPD in 1989. During his years of service, he coordinated community relations events and juvenile justice programs as our Juvenile Officer, among many other

BPD ENCOURAGES RESIDENTS TO JOIN RESIDENTIAL SECURITY CAMERA CAMPAIGN

Bridgeport Police are encouraging all residents who possess exterior residential/commercial cameras to contact the department and join in a campaign to help strengthen community security. By supplying their contact information, address, and the view description of the camera coverage, BPD will be able to develop a map all of these external resources to assist in investigations. Remember, your camera could be the key in helping keep your block safer! Please call the BPD non-emergency line at 610-272-5660 or email chief@bridgeportpd.com with questions and information.

SAFETY TIPS



• Early Detection

Smoke is responsible for the majority of fatalities in fires. Have smoke detectors throughout your home and set a reminder to test them once a month.



• Help Us Find You

Every minute counts when it comes to you and your home. Make your address visible from the street so we can find you fast.



• CO Detection

One of the most important detectors are for the dangers you can't see. Keeping a CO detector in a central part of your home.



Bridgeport Fire Co. #1
72 W. 4th Street

THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

Good Will Fire Co.
304 Bush Street



Parks and Recreation

In late September, construction began on the Memorial Park Trail project. This project consists of two parts. First is the installation of new curb and sidewalk on the south side of Grove Street, at the foot of Memorial Park, from Union Avenue to the Bridgeport Memorial Park parking lot at the corner of Grove Street and 9th Street. A painted crosswalk will also run from the sidewalk along the front of the park's parking lot and connect to the walking path at Bridgeport Elementary. Secondly, this project also includes the construction of a meandering walking trail along the hill connecting the new Grove Street sidewalk to the existing track atop Bridgeport Memorial Park. This project was funded predominantly by a Montco 2040 grant award in the amount of \$192,800, and completion of this project is estimated to take place in early November. This project provides several benefits to the borough residents. The new sidewalk allows students and parents to safely walk on both sides of Grove Street, to and from both Memorial Park and Bridgeport Elementary. The walking trail provides a new fun and challenging path up the hill of Memorial Park, along with benches located on the path to sit and enjoy one of the most scenic views in the county. The new curb will reduce the flow of stormwater that runs down the hill and across Grove Street and will keep the majority of that flow running along the curb line until it is collected by inlets closer to Union Avenue. Additionally, this project also involved the removal of several dead tree stumps as well as an asphalt pad that was once home to a bandstand, bringing a better cosmetic to the hillside.



While the Borough believes that the public will enjoy this new amenity once complete, it understands that there have been questions raised as to the width of the sidewalk and narrowing of Grove Street. Please understand that maintaining as wide a travel width as possible was also one of the Borough's primary goals with this project. Careful consideration and review went into this design. The total width of Grove Street with the new sidewalk installation is 26 feet. This means that after deducting 8 feet in width for street parking, the remaining drivable width of Grove Street will now be 18 feet. For context, a standard bus is 8 feet wide, similar to a super duty pickup truck. Further, the average width of a regular car is 5.8 feet, and a truck is generally 6.7 feet wide according to the Federal Highway Administration website. So, with a street width of 18 feet, and a possibility of a vehicle anywhere from 5.8 to 8 feet in width, more often than not there should be no problems with two vehicles passing on Grove Street. Another concern for the Borough was to not cut so far into the hillside that any tree roots would be harmed potentially leading to their death. The wooded hillside of Memorial Park is a beautiful feature in our community that we wish to accentuate; thus, preserving the pines and oaks that grow along the side of Grove Street was very important. Bridgeport Borough is excited to unveil the Memorial Park Trail project when it is finally completed and welcomes residents to visit and enjoy this new amenity.

WHO WE ARE

• 2 Stations 1 Department

The Bridgeport Fire Department is comprised of two fire companies; *Bridgeport Fire Company #1* & *Good Will Fire Company*. **Operationally, we are united both in command and structure under the title: Station 54**

• 24/7, 365 Days, All Volunteer

Our volunteers have been providing fire prevention & protection in Bridgeport Borough for 130+ years. Our crew is made up of dedicated and trained firefighters serving the community 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year

• Neighbors, Friends, & First Responders

We are the neighbors you see on your way to work. The friends sitting on the porch as you're walking your dogs. We stop to chat with old friends and new. Have dinner next to you at the pizza places, and stop to say 'Hello' in Wawa. Just don't take it personally if we leave mid-sentence. **When a call for help goes out, we put the community first as your volunteer first responders**

Give Us a Call: (610) 272-1811 Ext 248

Or Visit the Stations: Monday Nights @ 6:30

JOIN US TODAY



We Need You to VOLUNTEER

Bridgeport Fire Department is a 100% volunteer organization. That means it takes community members, like yourself, to step up and join the fight.

• NO PREVIOUS TRAINING NEEDED

Training is important! We provide training through Montgomery County Fire Academy at no cost to you. (16 years of age and older)

• NO TIME MINIMUM REQUIRED

We get it—life is busy and there isn't time to dedicate all your free time to one place. Help out when your schedule allows

UPCOMING EVENTS

Every Other Thursday

Bingo

Bridgeport Fire Co. #1

November 20

Bag Bingo

Good Will Fire Co.

December 17

Santa Tours the Town

Bridgeport Borough

December 18

Breakfast With Santa

Good Will Fire Co.



Visit our department Facebook for new or changing events.



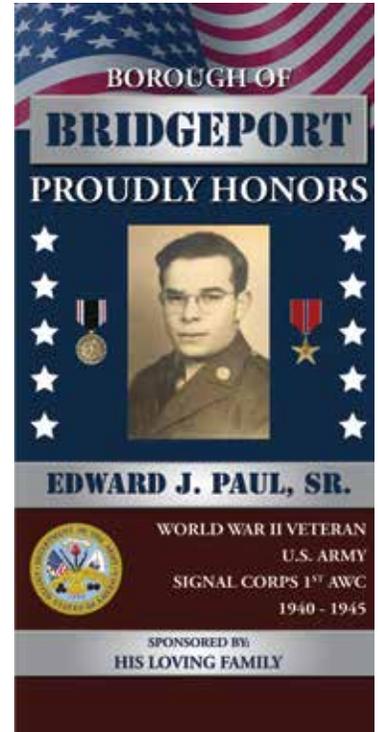
Community Events

Veterans Day 2022

November 11 is Veterans Day, a federal holiday that is meant to honor all veterans of the uniformed services who served or are still serving during times of peace as well as war. Bridgeport Borough wishes to thank all those among us who, despite the risk and sacrifice, raised their hand to serve and defend this beautiful country—our veterans, active-duty service members, guardsmen and reservists. Their service has helped keep our country and its citizens safe and free. We also wish to also take a moment to acknowledge those families of service members and veterans who help shoulder the weight of war and the burdens of sacrifice. To the mothers, fathers, spouses and children of our military men and women—thank you. Their love, support and resilience are the backbone of this nation, and that must never be forgotten. Bridgeport Borough, with coordination by former councilmember Randy Bennett, began showing gratitude to our veterans through the Hometown Heros banner program earlier in 2022. The banners, sponsored by the family and loved ones of these veterans, can be seen hanging throughout town along our main streets and in municipal parking lots. The program was so successful that the borough



is currently not taking further orders because we simply ran out of places to hang the banners, which demonstrates the pride and love this town has for its heroes. Bridgeport Borough asks that residents take the time this Veterans Day to find a local veteran and thank them for their service; and also welcomes residents to join us on November 11 at 11:00am at the Bridgeport War Memorial at Fourth and DeKalb Streets for our annual ceremony, coordinated by the Catholic War Veterans of Bridgeport.



2022 BRIDGEPORT 5K RECAP

The 5th annual Bridgeport 5K was held this year on Saturday, October 1. Despite it being a cold and rainy day, we experienced a fantastic turnout as over 100 runners, volunteers and supporters came out to take part in what is quickly becoming a popular town tradition. The day's festivities were emceed by DJ Corey Thomas, and singer Angela Marchetti led us in a great rendition of the National Anthem. The top three male & female places were awarded medals, as were the top male and female finishes in multiple age brackets. The 5K winners were presented awards donated by Bridgeport Trophy Company. After the medal presentation, we cheered on about a dozen children who participated in the kids fun run. Thanks to our race participants and our fantastic corporate sponsors, the 2022 Bridgeport 5K was able to present a check in excess of \$6,000 to the race beneficiary, The Montgomery County Hero Fund. A list of the overall winners as well as the age bracket winners is listed below.



Top Male Finishes:

1. Brian Lafferty, Philadelphia, 19:03.21
2. Ryan Brenan, Wayne, 21:37.09
3. Aiden Szydluk, Bridgeport, 21:47.88

Top Female Finishes:

1. Emily Fisk, Bridgeport, 23:09.18
2. Becky Greiner, Conshohocken, 23:22.74
3. Kaitlyn Lutz, Bridgeport, 23:51.75

Ages 20-29:

1. Chris Laskowski, Warminster, 22:35.43
2. Kaitlin Clark, Bridgeport, 26:51.66

Ages 30-39:

1. Jonathan Goulet, Philadelphia, 22:45.15
2. Christine Herman, King of Prussia, 26:24.18

Ages 40-49:

1. Brad Hein, King of Prussia, 22:52.00

2. Jen Gross, Parts Unknown, 26:49.54

Ages 50-59:

1. Chris Derby, King of Prussia, 26:56.52
2. Mia Weygand, King of Prussia, 27:41.10

Ages 60+:

1. Michael Tweed-Kent, Pittsfield MA, 28:49.55
2. Frank Carduff, Shenandoah, 32:52.52



Congratulations to all of our runners for gutting it out on a cold and rainy morning - you're all champs in our book!



FASTEST MAN AND WOMAN IN BRIDGEPORT

At the October 11 meeting of Bridgeport Borough Council, Mayor Beth Jacksier presented proclamations to this year's Fastest Man and Woman in Bridgeport - Alex Poultney and Emily Fisk. A tradition that's been going on since the Bridgeport 5K began in 2017, each year the male and female borough resident with the best 5K times are bestowed with this prestigious title. Emily finished the 5k race in a time of 23 minutes 08.32 seconds, placing 8th overall, while Alex finished in a time of 23 minutes 10.59 seconds, placing 9th overall. Please join us in congratulating Emily and Alex on their accomplishments!

BRIDGEPORT BOROUGH THANKS THE 2022 5K SPONSORS

Bridgeport Borough wanted to take the opportunity to thank all of the sponsors and corporate partners who aided in making this year's 2022 Bridgeport 5K a success. Thanks to these businesses, along with the participants, staff and volunteers, we will be able to provide a marvelous donation to the Montgomery County Hero Fund, this year's race beneficiaries.

GOLD SPONSORS

Bello Reilly McGrory DiPippo	Remax Haghkar Group
Bridgeport Business Association	WSFS Bank
Bridgeport Veterinary Hospital	Workers First Pharmacy
Infinity Lines Inc.	Acapulco Mini Market
PRDC Properties	PECO
TLC Drain & Sewer	The Depot Bar
Gannett Fleming Engineers	
Markley Rehabilitation	

SILVER SPONSORS

Reach Fitness - The Factory Gym
Phoenix Physical Therapy
World's Finest Vape Shop
Bridgeport Beer Company
Matus Brothers Auto Body

BRONZE SPONSORS

Taphouse 23
M. Scavello Inc.
Fat Boy Deli
Applied Testing & Geosciences
DeRo Premium Cello
Bacchi Funeral Home
Goodwill Fire Company
Bridgeport Elks #714
Turley Insurance Agency

We also want to thank the following sponsors who contributed integral services to the overall operation of the event:

Bridgeport Trophy Company for furnishing the medals awarded to our top finishers!

Suzy-Jo Donuts for supplying the delicious donuts that fuel our runners every year!

Collegiate Water Polo Association for their generous donation!

Giant Bicycle Shop - Village Velo for providing a lead bicyclist to guide the runners!

Special thanks to the fire police volunteers from across the region and Plymouth Ambulance Company that lent their protection to the event!



ANNUAL HOLIDAY SHOPPING VILLAGE – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26



Please join us on Saturday, November 26th from 3:00-7:00pm in Borough Hall parking lot for the Annual Holiday Shopping Village celebrating Small Business Saturday, operated by Growing Bridgeport Together. There will be holiday music, children's activities in a heated tent, and the opportunity to get started with your holiday shopping while supporting Small Businesses from Bridgeport and surrounding communities. This year's vendors include: Frank's Fine Swine and Beef with their no-salt added beef and chicken jerky, Tiff's Wicks Candle Company with their hand poured candles, Heck of a Cookie and their variety of cookies and other sweet treats, Handmade by Rita featuring fabric ornaments and wreaths, Donald Moser's variety of fashionable winter wear, Lotus J Collections featuring crystals and other healing items, Junebug Sweet Treats and her variety of delectable desserts, Mazz Comics returning again with Funko Pops and other comics related merchandise, and Familiar Curiosities with a variety of gift ideas and crocheted items! Also, stop by and chat with the amazing people who take care of your precious pets from Bridgeport Veterinary Hospital. We hope that you are able to come out and see what some of our great local businesses have to offer, and we thank Growing Bridgeport Together for orchestrating the event.

ANNUAL FESTIVE LIGHTS CEREMONY – SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Also taking place on Saturday, November 26th beginning at 6:30pm is the annual Festive Lights tree lighting ceremony, operated by the Bridgeport Festive Lights Committee. A tradition for over 20 years, this event involves the closure of Mill Street between Third and Fourth Streets, and takes place in the Borough Hall parking lot, the borough public works garage, and along Mill Street. Residents and visitors alike will enjoy caroling and refreshments and the lighting of the Borough Hall Christmas Tree, as we prepare for the arrival of Santa Claus, who always takes time to greet the children of Bridgeport and take a photo with them. The evening is capped off with another tradition unique to Bridgeport, a fireworks display along the Schuylkill Riverfront that is visible from almost the entire town! We hope you are able to come out to this great event, and we thank the Festive Lights Committee for continuing to deliver this tradition.

Public Works

The Public Works Department consists of four full time employees. While few in number, our Public Works staff are incredibly dedicated to their work and pride themselves on delivering as high a quality of life to our residents as possible. The routine maintenance activities of the Public Works Department include landscaping, fleet maintenance, snow removal, minor road repairs, physical plant maintenance, traffic signal maintenance, street sweeping and street signs. The Public Works Department also plays a vital role in Bridgeport's community events operations, such as plotting detours for the annual 5K Run, decorating the town with "Season's Greetings" lights and community banners, and erecting the Christmas Tree at Borough Hall. Contact the Public Works Department regarding any street-related problems such as potholes, snow plowing, or streetlight and traffic signal outages by calling the Public Works Garage at 610-313-3138.

2022 PAVING SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

Bridgeport Borough would like to announce that at the October 11 meeting of Borough Council, the 2022 street paving project contract was awarded to Allan Myers LP of Worcester. The total contract cost for this project is \$710,450. Borough officials are proud to be able to say that since 2016, nearly 90% of borough streets have been repaved; all of which has been achieved without taking on additional loan debt or increasing borough property taxes. Due to COVID and other urgent town matters, no paving projects were conducted in 2020 or 2021. However, the borough still used that opportunity to apply for grant funding and obtain monies for future paving projects. In fact, a total of \$413,000 in block grant awards will help offset the overall cost of the 2022 street paving project. The milling of borough streets should begin sometime in mid-November, weather permitting. However, in the event that colder weather sets in too soon, please note that the entire project may be delayed until Spring 2023. Please understand that if your street is listed below, you will be seeing "no parking"

signage posted on your street during the days that your street is scheduled for restoration. However, our contractors are made aware that we expect at least 48 hours' notice given to residents prior to having to move their vehicles. The Borough wishes to announce that the 2022 borough-wide paving project specifications include the full-width restoration of the following street and alley segments:

2nd Street, Depot to DeKalb
3rd Street, Mill to Green
6th Street, DeKalb to Mascaro Transfer Station
9th Street, DeKalb to Merion
Coates Street, Holstein to Fraley
Cherry Alley, Front to 2nd
Elm Alley, Ford to Green
Ford Street, 4th to Front
Fraley Street, 4th to Hurst
Front Street, Depot to DeKalb
Front Street, Ford to Vine
Green Street, 4th to York Alley
Greenfield Alley, Hurst to Grove
Holstein Street, 4th to Hurst
Prospect Street, 4th to Fraley
Merion Street, 5th to 9th
Rambo Street, Ford to Mill
Vine Street, 4th to Front

Additionally, there will some minor repair work performed the following streets segments to address some areas of concern:

Mill Street, between Rambo and 5th
5th Street, between Green and DeKalb
9th Street, between Mill and Green

Thank you for your attention and cooperation in this matter.

Recycling Roundup

To all Bridgeport Residents and Businesses:

Bridgeport Borough Recycling Ordinance #2018-004, requires the following:

1. All residents and businesses must separate recyclables, including glass, plastics #1, 2, 3, and 5, aluminum and bimetallic cans, paper, and cardboard, from their solid waste.
2. All residents and businesses must separate leaf waste, including leaves from trees, bushes, and other plants, garden residue, chipped shrubbery and tree trimmings, but not including grass clippings, from their solid waste, and either compost leaf waste on their property, set leaves out during municipal leaf pickup days (please view the Yard Waste Collection page for annual dates),

self-haul the leaf waste to a state-approved composting facility (such as the Heuser Park Compost Site in Upper Merion Township) or have a hauler collect the leaf waste, to be delivered to a state-approved composting facility.

3. All residents and businesses are prohibited from burning recyclables and leaf waste or including these items with their other solid waste (trash).

Single-stream recycling allows Bridgeport Borough residents to place all recyclables: cans, bottles and plastics together with newspapers, cardboard, etc. in one container. There is no need to separate items since the "single stream" recycling process used allows all recyclables to be mixed together.

How do I separate Trash from Recycling?

It is easiest to have a container or two set up where it happens,

Recycling Roundup *continued*

like a bin in the kitchen for bottles and cans you have washed out, and another in the office for used paper and mail. Just remember that with single stream recycling, it can all go in the same container – we do the sorting for you. Single stream recycling will be collected by a compaction truck. Only recyclables will be on this truck on your recycling day, it cannot collect non-recyclable items.

Acceptable Recycling Materials

Metal: Aluminum cans, aluminum foil and foil plates, etc. Metal lids, Metal food cans (tin/steel).

Glass: Glass bottles and jars (food and drink only, any color). Please rinse all food waste from bottles and cans before recycling.

Plastic Containers: Plastic bottles and containers labeled #1 through #7 (soda, water, milk, juice, liquor, shampoo, detergent, condiments, salad dressing, yogurt, margarine).

Mixed Paper and Cardboard: Newspaper and inserts, magazines and catalogs, junk mail, envelopes, file folders, white/colored/computer paper (staples and paper clips ok), corrugated cardboard, paper bags, phone books, wrapping paper (remove metallic paper and bows). Please remember to flatten all cardboard/paper boxes and containers.

Unacceptable Recycling Materials

Ceramics, dishes, coffee cups, drinking glasses, glass oven ware, Pyrex, window glass, mirrors, light bulbs, plastics without #1 - #7 labeling, plastic bags, styrofoam, bubble wrap, tissue or paper towels, wax paper cartons, metallic or coated paper, waxed boxes, and food contaminated cardboard (i.e. pizza boxes).

E-Waste Alert! Disposal Ban

Solid waste disposal facilities in Pennsylvania are no longer allowed to accept televisions and computer devices including hard drives, monitors, keyboards, mice and printers or their components. Retailers such as Staples® and Best Buy® often have e-waste recycling options at no charge. Check their websites, restrictions may apply.

Use Retrievr for your Electronic Waste Recycling Needs!

Montgomery County has recently partnered with RETRIEVR to provide local electronic waste recycling services. For a small fee, Retrievr will take just about any clean and dry textile or fabric in your home, and most electronic devices or accessories including TVs, computers, monitors, and mobile phones. For more information, contact Retrievr.com or text "PICKUP" to or call 757-703-3824.

Please note that we do not take household appliances, such as dishwashers, refrigerators, toasters, vacuums, hair dryers and the like. Please see our Greater Philadelphia Area page for the full list of accepted items.

Disposal of Household Paints

Latex paint: Let paint dry in can. Adding kitty litter or a commercial drying agent will speed up the drying process. When paint is dry, double bag the can before putting it in the trash. Leaking paint will damage our trucks and stain your street. **Oil based paint:** Is hazardous waste and will not be collected. Call Montgomery County Recycling (610-278-3618) for drop off locations and dates.

Bridgeport Borough Blue Recycling Containers

Blue Borough containers are for recycling collection use only. Remember: If you move, the blue container should be left behind at the household as they are the property of Bridgeport Borough. If you need a replacement, call the Borough Offices at (610) 272-1811.



■ Trash and Recyclables
 ■ Bulk Item
 H Holiday
 ■ Yard Waste
 ■ Christmas Tree

Questions or Problems? J.P. Mascaro Office Hours of Operation: Monday thru Friday 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Saturdays 7:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Call 1-800-432-1616 or visit us on the web. Residents are also encouraged call the Borough Offices with collection problems, at (610) 272-1811.

Bridgeport Borough Fall Leaf Collection

Bridgeport Borough Public Works performs residential fall leaf collection every year in November. The 2022 fall leaf collection schedule will be every Monday and Friday during the month of November. Please gather leaves along the curb line of your property, unbagged. Public Works will remove them from the curb line of your property during their normal daytime hours of operation.

Heuser Park Composting Site in Upper Merion Township

All Bridgeport residents are permitted to use the composting site at Heuser Park in Upper Merion, 694 W. Beidler Road for disposal of residential yard waste. A couple notes to be aware of before going:

1. You must bring photo ID to verify that you are a Bridgeport resident. Only Upper Merion and Bridgeport residents are permitted to utilize this free service.

2. This service is for residential yard waste only. Commercial landscapers will be denied access.
3. You must have grass clippings separated from tree and bush trimmings, but you may bring both. There are two separate dumping locations for each of these within the site - please tell the attendant what you have and they'll direct you where to dump each.
4. You must check in at the weigh scale shed as you enter the park, and drive over the weigh scales before entering the composting site. All vehicles are weighed before and after dumping to accurately gather tonnage data.
5. No dirt, rocks or mud, thus no sod as well. If you have large root balls that you are discarding, you must hose/knock off as much dirt from between the roots as possible before dumping. Dirt and rocks damage the grinder used to process the yard waste.

Please feel free to take advantage of this free service available to all Borough residents. Bridgeport Borough thanks Upper Merion Township for continuing to provide this ability to the Bridgeport community. Please visit the Upper Merion Township website for more information including hours of operation.

THE TYPICAL ESTATE PLAN

By Salvatore F. Bello, Jr., Esq., and Salvatore F. Bello, III, Esq.

When contemplating an estate plan, there are typically, at least, three (3) documents recommended. The first document is the Last Will and Testament (the "Will"). The Will sets forth several important decisions in the event of your passing. You must select an Executor/Executrix, as well as an alternate. This position is commonly someone you trust and who is organized. It is often a spouse, an adult child, or a trusted friend. In Pennsylvania, the attorney for the estate will do most of the work in probating the estate. In my office, we handle most of the responsibilities. However, we do not allow ourselves access to estate funds. Rather, we advise the Executor/Executrix as to who should be paid and the amount.

If there are children involved, you may want their shares, as beneficiaries, to be held in Trust until they reach a certain age, typically 18, 21, 25 or any age preferred. You would be required to select a Trustee, who has a fiduciary obligation to the beneficiaries of the Trust. The Trustee must use his/her best efforts to safely manage the assets of the Trust.

If there are minor children, you would also designate a Guardian of the minor children. The Guardian is the individual who has the responsibility for the day-to-day physical care of your child, in the event of your passing. This person can be the same as the Trustee, or it can be someone completely different. There are pros and cons to each choice.

The primary purpose of your Will is to distribute your assets to your beneficiaries and see that your wishes are honored. This can be very simple, or it can be complicated.

The second document recommended is a Power of Attorney (POA). Your Will only become legally binding after you pass away. However, there are often times when you cannot conduct your own affairs, but fortunately, you are still with us. This can be due to an illness, general physical condition, or an accident. The POA designates the person to conduct your affairs during this period. The POA is extinguished, or is no longer effective, the minute you should die. The Executor/Executrix would then take over upon opening the estate.

The final document is called a Living Will (LW). Although this may sound harsh, it is the "pull the plug" document. It speaks to situations when you are still alive, but two (2) physicians agree that they have done all they can for you and that there is virtually no chance of recovery. You should NOT sign a hospital's version of a LW, unless it is reviewed by a professional. You will likely be asked by the representative of the hospital if you have a LW prior to surgery or an extended hospital stay. Most of my clients sign a LW, while some have personal or religious objections.

Our best advice is that you have considered all three (3) of these documents as part of a typical estate plan. The process is painless, affordable and will foreclose most of the common problems of estate administration.



BRIDGEPORT BOROUGH GENERAL INFORMATION

63 West 4th Street, Bridgeport, PA 19405

PHONE: 610-272-1811 • www.bridgeportborough.org

OFFICE HOURS: M-F, 8:30-4:30pm



From left to right: Tony Heyl (Vice President), Saba Al Zaid, Amy High, Kyle Shenk (President), Meghan Nolan, James Fee, Diane Gundrum, Mayor Beth Jacksier.

Mayor

Beth Jacksier

Phone: 610-272-1811, ext. 244
bjacksier@bridgeportborough.org

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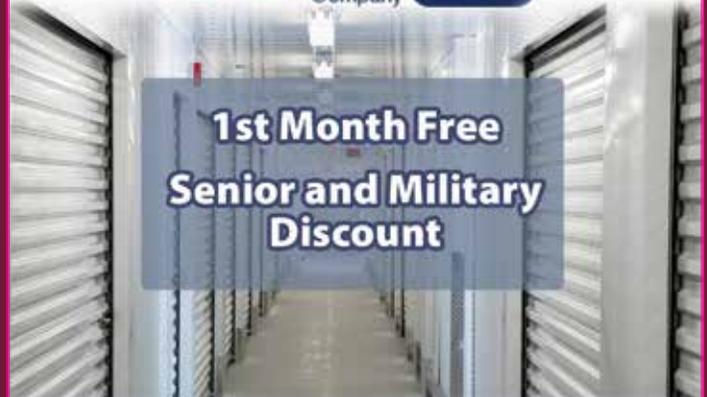
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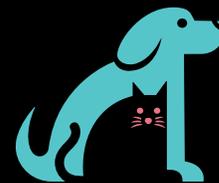
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