

#### **President's Letter**

#### January 1, 2021

Best wishes for the new year from borough council. After a year which brought us a health pandemic, we all sincerely are looking forward to a truly healthy 2021.

Our town has many plans for 2021. The Borough's budget, which was approved in December, provides for continuation of the wellexecuted municipal services that you have come to expect as a resident or business owner in Quakertown. Our employees strive to do an outstanding job in all the areas that affect the quality of our daily lives. Our workforce puts great pride in doing their best in all functions of our municipal responsibilities – public infrastructure, public safety and police, electric service, water and sewer, parks and recreation, and administrative coordination in the delivery of services.

Our 2021 budget, while calling for continued high level of municipal services, is balanced. We do not foresee any changes in borough tax rates, electric, water or sewer rates. Council remains committed to excellent municipal services and balanced budgets.

In 2021, many projects are going to begin. We will start the engineering phase of the Juniper Street reconstruction. This will ultimately result in a complete redo of Juniper Street and the utilities that run underneath it. The project will be planned carefully to keep necessary interruptions to the flow of traffic and access at a minimum. The Borough is committed to executing this important job in an efficient and carefully staged manner. Information will be shared well in advance of actual construction. The Borough will be installing a new inclusive playground in Memorial Park in the new year which replaces the Panther Playground which needed to be dismantled and retired in 2020 due to its age and condition. The new playground will be designed with sections for children of all ages and should be an incredible asset for the community. Our swimming pool facility has also reached the stage where the ongoing repairs and maintenance has required Borough Council and administration to consider the need for a renovation. The pool will be remade to bring new features and designed with a separate infant pool. Other features for the pool complex are being researched to make a family's day at the pool a memorable time. Our sewer plant will be expanded and as part of this expansion, we are examining a facility

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35 N. Third Street

Quakertown, PA 18951

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#### President's Letter continued from cover

to convert the biogas generated at the plant into power. This is a truly exciting option that will help create green energy out of waste.

During the fourth quarter of 2020, council instructed Borough administration to pursue financing opportunities due to historically low interest rates to finance these projects and refinance our existing long-term debt. We issued series of municipal obligation bonds in November to achieve these purposes. The blended interest rate of the new borrowings was approximately 1.55%. This annual rate is 2.0% lower than we were paying before. As an added benefit, some of the projects, such as the biogas energy generation, will create cash flow to assist in meeting the debt service in future years.

A decision was made in latter part of 2020 to refurbish our War Memorial in Memorial Park. This memorial, which honors those who have given their lives in service to our country, will be surrounded with new hardscaping and landscaping, including shade structures and lighting. Flagpoles will be added to represent all the armed forces. A dedicated group of community members have led the fundraising for this project, and we are very grateful for the community's response, both individuals and businesses.

The expectation is the memorial will be finished by mid-May 2021. Please be sure to check out the progress. If you are interested in contributing, see the Quakertown Borough website at www.Quakertown.org/WarMemorial or call Borough Hall.

Please remember that Borough Council meetings are open to the public and occur on the first Wednesday and fourth Monday of each month. Agendas and minutes can be found at the Quakertown Borough website. We are glad to see people attend and provide their input at our meetings.

Best wishes for the new year, Donald Rosenberger

Council President

#### **BOROUGH HOURS & PHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency, Fire, Ambulance or Police dial 9-1-1

15-536-5001
67-347-5009
15-536-5002
15-328-8501
15-536-5003
15-536-5004

Highway Department:	215-536-5005
Water Department:	215-536-5855
Parks and Recreation Department:	267-372-7275
24-hour Anonymous Crime Tip Line:	267-371-5094
Utility Emergency After Hours:	215-721-3520
J.P. Mascaro & Sons:	1-800-333-4624

The Borough office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm. When the office is closed, utility payments can be deposited in the drop-box located on the north side of Borough Hall.

#### **QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH - Schedule of Events**

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Christmas Tree Pick Up	Dec. 26-Feb. 12		On your designated trash day
Council Meeting	January 6	7:30 P.M.	Borough Hall
Large Trash Pick Up (on scheduled trash day)	January 12 & 13		
K.I.D.S. Camp Registration Opens	February 1		Quakertownrec.com
Council Meeting	February 3	7:30 P.M.	Borough Hall
Council Meeting	March 3	7:30 P.M.	Borough Hall
Blood Drive	March 12	1:00 P.M6:00 P.M.	Free Fall Energy Center
Daylight Savings	March 14		
Council Meeting	April 7	7:30 P.M.	Borough Hall
Easter Egg Hunt	March 27	10:00 A.M12:00 P.M.	Soccer Fields
Easter Egg Hunt (Rain date)	March 28	1:00 P.M.	Soccer Fields
Borough Hall Closed-Easter Holiday	April 2		
Easter Sunday	April 4		
Spring-Clean Up Day	April 24	8:00 A.M.	Quakertown Community Pool

## POLICE DEPARTMENT



Borough of Quakertown Police Department 35 North Third Street, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951 Phone: 215-536-5002 • Fax: 215-536-5140 www.quakertown.org Scott C. McElree, Chief of Police



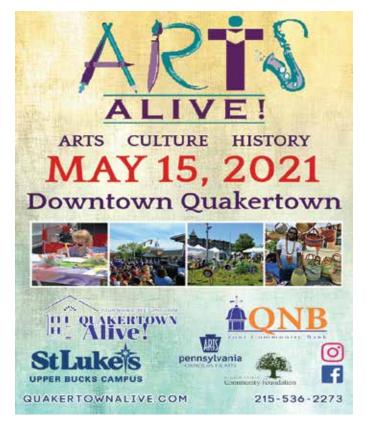
#### "WE HAVE YOUR BACK ... TO HELP YOU GET YOUR LIFE BACK"

Bucks County Police Assisting In Recovery (BPAIR) is a program aimed towards getting help for individuals seeking substance use disorder treatment by connecting them with resources, support and services. The Quakertown Borough Police Department is here to help and support adult residents of Bucks County who are looking for help or struggling with substance use disorder.

The first step for the individual seeking treatment is to visit one of the BPAIR Police Departments like the Quakertown Borough Police Department. If you or someone you know is seeking help, please call or visit QPD. If you need assistance after-hours, please call Gaudenzia at 267-405-6530.







#### QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT SECURITY CAMERA INDEX

The Quakertown Borough Police Department is devoted to our relationship with residents and business owners. We are committed to protecting our community in every possible manner. One way to make our community more secure is through the use of surveillance cameras. Video surveillance is one of the best methods for the apprehension and conviction

of offenders. The Quakertown Borough Police Department has utilized this technology in numerous cases to successfully prosecute criminals. We have created a Security Camera Index to allow residents and business owners to register their current camera systems in our database. Installing video surveillance is a great example of community-police partnerships and is something we highly value as a police agency serving our community. Residents and business owners are providing the police department with the locations and abilities of their protective systems. By registering with us, we can quickly identify nearby cameras that may have captured criminal activity. After registering your camera, police personnel may request to view your camera footage to assist in an investigation regarding a crime that occurred in that area. You are under no obligation to give police video if you do not wish to. Information provided to the Quakertown Borough Police Department regarding your camera systems will be for official use only, and personal information will be kept confidential. If you have additional questions or concerns about the program, please contact Officer Wolfinger at (215) 536-5002 or at awolfinger@quakertown.org.



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#### **TO THE BUSINESS!**

This publication is made available through the generous advertising sponsorship of the businesses listed throughout our newsletter. We wish to encourage your patronage of these establishments; they play a substantial role in the economic vitality of our community.





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# **Quakertown Community**





Borough of Quakertown Code Enforcement / Emergency Management / Fire Marshal's Office 35 North Third Street, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951 Tel.: 215-536-5001



#### **HELP YOU LOCAL EMERGENCY SERVICES – ADOPT A FIRE HYDRANT**

As winter approaches, please help the Borough of Quakertown Emergency Services by adopting the fire hydrant closest to your home or business and keep it free of snow during the winter.

Please make it a point to uncover your fire hydrant after each and every snowfall. Clear a path approximately 3 feet around the hydrant and shovel a path from the street or roadway up to the fire hydrant. These actions will allow the fire department to quickly locate the fire hydrant, obtain a water supply for firefighting activities, and give the fire department room to work with this hydrant should the need arise.

Please consider helping a neighbor with a medical condition or who is elderly, by shoveling out a hydrant in front of their home. This act of kindness will benefit the entire neighborhood.

At a fire, the Fire Department must quickly locate and gain a water supply source from the closest fire hydrant. A fire engine carries enough water on board for approximately 3 ½ minutes of firefighting. If a fire hydrant is buried by snow, it is difficult to find and valuable time must be spent digging it out. It may take from 4 to 6 minutes to dig out a fire hydrant buried by snow. The delay in gaining a water supply from a fire hydrant may disrupt the timely manner in which firefighters are able to fight the fire and may allow a fire to grow.

Fire doubles in size every 20 seconds.

The "Adopt A Hydrant" program is an informal program, therefore it is not necessary to advise the fire department of which hydrants you will be clearing snow from.

On behalf of the entire Borough of Quakertown Emergency Services, thank you for keeping the Quakertown community's fire hydrants clear of snow and keeping our communities safe!

#### Fire Prevention ..... Life Safety

"Home fire sprinklers save your life, your loved ones, and your property"

For additional information, please contact the Borough's Fire Marshal at 215-536-5001 Ext. 114.







#### Borough of Quakertown Code Enforcement / Emergency Management / Fire Marshal's Office 35 North Third Street, Quakertown, Pennsylvania 18951 Tel.: 215-536-5001 Ext. 114



#### **OPEN BURNING AND RECREATIONAL FIRES**

#### Prohibition against Open Burning

Within the municipal limits of the Borough, no person shall kindle, set, start, ignite, maintain or permit the kindling, setting, starting, ignition or maintenance of any open burning outside of any building for any purpose at all, including by way of example and not by way of limitation any junk fire, refuse fire, open fire, a fire ignited to burn brush, grass, wood, leaves, paper, rubbish, garbage, construction materials, etc.

Open burning that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions due to atmospheric conditions or local circumstances shall be prohibited. The Code Official or Fire Marshal is authorized to order the extinguishment of any open burning which creates or adds to a hazardous or objectionable situation. The Fire Marshal or Code Official may ban open burning within the Borough when atmospheric conditions result in the potential for wildfires that may spread from their source due to dry vegetative or plant conditions.

#### Exceptions

The prohibition against open burning shall not apply to any fire started or ignited:

- A. For the purpose of instructing firefighting personnel.
  - a. Burning will be allowed for the purpose of instruction or training firefighting personnel under the supervision of the fire chief or officer in charge. However, fire for firefighting training may not be used when atmospheric conditions would create a situation of offensive or objectionable smoke or odor on other premises.
- B. To prevent or abate a fire hazard.
- C. For the prevention and control of disease or pests.
- D. Solely for ceremonial purposes, such as a bonfire.
  - A permit shall be obtained from the Borough Fire Marshal prior to kindling a fire to prevent or abate a fire hazard, for the prevention and control of disease or pests and for ceremonial purposes, such as a bonfire.
  - When required by state or local law or regulations, open burning shall only be permitted with prior approval from the state or local air and water quality management authority, provided that all conditions specified are followed.
  - The locations from above shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure
- E. The outdoor cooking of food shall be permitted in or on an Underwriters Laboratory (UL) approved open flame cooking device, solely intended for the cooking of food, and in strict adherence with the manufacture's specifications and the 2006 International Fire Code.

## o Units not approved by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) must be approved by the Borough Fire Marshal and used in strict adherence with manufacturers specifications and the 2006 International Fire Code.

- F. The use of patio wood burning units that are approved by the Underwriters Laboratory (UL) are approved for use under the following conditions:
  - The patio wood burning unit is approved by the Underwriters Laboratory (UL).
  - Under no circumstances shall trash, garbage, leaves, brush, branches or hazardous materials be used in the ignition of these devices: The burning of Clean-wood only is permitted.
  - The use of a patio wood burning unit is used in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and the 2006 International Fire Code.
  - The patio wood burning unit while in use must be ignited, attended and extinguished by an adult (18 years or older). A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment such as a bucket of water or garden hose shall be available for immediate utilization.

## o Units not approved by Underwriters Laboratory (UL) must be approved by the Borough Fire Marshal and used in strict adherence with manufacturers specifications and the 2006 International Fire Code.

- G. The use of a Masonry Home Built Units are approved for use under the following conditions:
  - The **Existing** Masonry Home Built Unit has been inspected and approved by the Borough Fire Marshal.

- Under no circumstances shall trash, garbage, leaves, brush, branches or hazardous materials be used in the ignition of these devices: The burning of Clean-wood only is permitted.
- The outdoor fireplace must be ignited, attended and extinguished by an adult (18 years or older). A minimum of one portable fire extinguisher or other approved on-site fire-extinguishing equipment such as a bucket of water or garden hose shall be available for immediate utilization.
- The owner of a New Masonry Home Built Unit shall obtain a permit from the Code Enforcement Office prior to any installation and the final installation shall be inspected by the Code Enforcement Official and only put into operation with written approval from the Borough's Code Enforcement Office. The purpose of the Code Enforcement Office inspection will only be to ensure compliance with this ordinance and shall not be considered a safety inspection.
- H. An outdoor wood-fired boiler may be installed and used in accordance with all of the following provisions:
  - The outdoor wood-fired boiler shall not be used to burn refuse and shall be used to burn clean wood only.
  - Shall be located at least 100 feet from the nearest residential dwelling which is not on the same property as the outdoor wood-fired boiler.
  - Shall have a chimney that extends at least 15 feet above the ground surface or 3 feet above the building
    it serves, whichever is greater. In addition, the chimney shall extend 3 feet above the highest peak of any
    residence located within 500 feet from the wood-fired boiler. The Fire Marshal or designee may approve a
    lesser height on a case-by-case basis if, in the opinion of the Fire Marshal or designee, it is necessary to comply
    with manufacturer's recommendations and if a lower chimney height does not create a nuisance to neighbors.
  - The owner of the outdoor wood-fired boiler shall obtain a permit from the Code Enforcement Office prior to any installation and the final installation shall be inspected by the Code Enforcement Official and only put into operation with written approval from the Borough's Code Enforcement Office. The purpose of the Code Enforcement Office inspection will only be to ensure compliance with this ordinance and shall not be considered a safety.

Fire Prevention ...... Life Safety "Home fire sprinklers save your life, your loved ones, and your property"



#### CODE ENFORCEMENT / EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FIRE MARSHAL'S OFFICE

#### SNOW REMOVAL

Every person in the Borough that owns or is in charge of any building or parcel in the Borough fronting or abutting on a paved sidewalk in the residential or business district, shall remove and clear away, snow and ice forming a path of at least 24 inches in width. The time limitation shall be 36 hours for the removal of snow, sleet or freezing rain. If there should happen to be a declared state of emergency the time limit shall be 36 hours after the termination of that emergency.

If the snow and ice on a sidewalk becomes so hard that it cannot be removed without the likelihood of damage to the sidewalk, then the person in charge of the removal shall, place sand or other abrasive on the sidewalk to make travel on the sidewalk reasonably safe; and shall then, as soon afterward as weather permits, remove the snow and ice by forming a minimum 24 inch pathway. The snow shall not be removed in such a way that it is deposited on the roadway or vehicular traveled portions of the street. In the event that the sidewalk does not get cleared, the Borough Manager does have the authority to have those sidewalks cleaned at the expense of the owner or the person in charge at a rate of 10% above the calculated cost of the work.

#### WINTER STREET PLOWING

Street safety is a primary concern for the Borough during the winter months. The Public Works Department provides snow removal and de-icing of Borough and State streets whenever road conditions call for these services. Please remember that snow removal operations are being performed under emergency conditions. Drivers experience extended work hours to provide safe and effective removal. The following items are what all residents need to be aware of this winter season.

- Do not deposit leaves in the roadway. Drains can become clogged with leaves that were left in the roadway which prevents melting snow from reaching the drains.
- Borough property owners shall not throw or place snow or ice onto Borough streets. This hinders our drivers doing snow removal from roadways and can cause significant plow damages. In the event that the Borough shall be required to remove snow from the roadway such cost shall be charged to the owner of the property where the snow was deposited. If you have a plowing contractor, please remind them of these regulations.
- Observe "NO PARKING" on Borough roads whenever snow has fallen, and the accumulation is such that it covers roadway surfaces. Please plan ahead and do not leave your vehicle in the roadway if snow is forecasted if at all possible.
- Do not place garbage cans on/in the street. Objects in the roadway are our biggest deterrent in efficient plowing operations.
- Remove all basketball posts that are located in the road or within the road right of way. Any posts or backboards left in these areas can produce damage to the Borough Vehicles performing snow related duties.
- Leave the last two (2) feet of your driveway un-shoveled until we have completed curb-to-curb removal. This will prevent our plows from plowing this area back in.
  - If you must shovel the very end of your driveway prior to our completion, place the snow to the right of your driveway (with your back facing your house). If placed in this area, this lessens the amount of snow plowed back onto the drive area.
- A special reminder for residents who live on Cul-de-sacs: these areas are particularly difficult to plow. We place snow accumulation in the most practicable area(s).

Thank you in advanced for your cooperation.

Joe Muraia **Director of Services** Borough of Quakertown



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#### QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH TO PROVIDE SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICES

After 18 years of contracting out the Borough's trash collection service, beginning February 1, 2021, we will once again provide that service in-house.

At the Borough Council meeting on December 2,2020, a resolution was approved, directing the Borough Manager to pursue the feasibility of the Borough of providing our own trash collection. This decision comes as a result of the current trash collector requesting the dissolving of the existing contract.

Borough Council and Administration look forward to improving the trash and recycling collection now that this opportunity is presented to us. We are taking steps to ensure that the Borough will provide an efficient and customer-satisfying service to our residents.

You will be receiving important details and information in early January, but we wanted to give you this "heads up" notice so you can be watching for more news to come.

#### BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN IMPLEMENTS MORE ADVANCE ELECTRONIC BILL PAY SERVICE

#### What is Invoice Cloud?

Invoice Cloud is a web-based, electronic billing and payment company that the Borough has partnered with to provide faster, safer, and more convenient billing services to our customers. By automating billing and payment, customers can click and pay online while helping the environment and reducing clutter in their home or workspace.



#### **Important Changes**

#### · Do I need to sign up for AutoPay or Recurring payments again?

Yes. For security and safety purposes, the Borough of Quakertown will not be migrating your current information to Invoice Cloud, our new payment processing system.

#### · Why isn't my information being migrated to the new online payment system?

The Borough of Quakertown opted not to migrate any current online payment processing information to provide the highest level of security and safety of your payment information in Invoice Cloud.

#### **Using Invoice Cloud**

#### · How does the system work?

It is very simple. Here are the 3 steps taken by customers:

1. Customers access account via the Borough of Quakertown Website by clicking the "PAY ONLINE" button on the Borough's main webpage or the "Invoice Cloud" button on the Utility Billing section of the website.

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#### BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN IMPLEMENTS MORE ADVANCE ELECTRONIC BILL PAY SERVICE

- 2. Customer should locate and view their utility bill and either enter payment information for a One Time Payment or register an account to enroll in AutoPay or a scheduled payment.
- 3. Customer will then receive an email confirmation with their payment amount and payment process.

#### · Do I need to register to pay a bill?

No. You will need to register to enroll in AutoPay and Paperless Billing, but registration is not required for One Time Payments. One Time Payments require that you enter your payment information each time you make a payment. By registering, you avoid that step and gain access to many other great features like the customer dashboard.

#### · Why should I register to pay a bill?

By registering, you have access to all your utility bills regardless of type and all the features of the payment portal. These features include the ability to view all current utility bills, see previous bills and payment dates, update your profile information, access the online customer service system, go paperless, schedule payments for a specific date, and sign up for AutoPay. You also avoid having to enter your payment information each time you pay a bill.

#### · How do I register?

Customers can go directly to the Borough of Quakertown's website (www.Quakertown.org/UtilityBilling) and click on the "Pay Online" button. You will then be directed to the Borough of Quakertown's online payment site, powered by Invoice Cloud. Once there, you will need to locate your account and be given the opportunity to register or make a one-time payment. If you choose to register, you will be asked to create a password and accept the terms and conditions to use the system. The payment information you enter in your profile will then be securely encrypted and saved for your next visit. If you make a One Time Payment, you will also have the option to register your account on the payment confirmation screen.

#### · Will my current password work in Invoice Cloud?

You will need to generate a password upon registration in Invoice Cloud. You may choose to use your current Xpress Bill Pay password if it meets the password criteria required by Invoice Cloud.

#### Paperless Billing

#### · What are some of the benefits of receiving my bill electronically?

It is convenient, saves time, reduces errors, allows you to receive bills anywhere at any time and helps the environment by saving trees. You can continue to receive a paper bill, but if you elect to go paperless, you can always print out a copy of the bill, if needed.

#### RemindMe

#### · How do I sign up for the RemindMe feature?

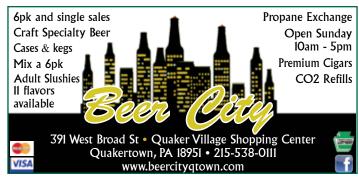
If you need a reminder to pay your bills, Invoice Cloud's RemindMe feature adds an alert to your calendar. Simply click on the Make a payment button to get started. You can also get email and text reminders.

#### Getting Help

#### · Who do I contact with questions about my Borough of Quakertown Utility Bill?

You are unable to find the information you need in your own online payment history or open invoices, please call Customer Service at 267-347-5009 during business hours or email Utilitybilling@quakertown.org.





### PARKS & RECREATION

## 👽 LIVE FROM THE UNIVEST PERFORMANCE CENTER 🌍





**JUNE 16, 2021** 

#### **JUNE 18, 2021**

**JULY 8, 2021** 



Happy Together Tour

JULY 9, 2021



**Gretchen Wilson** 

#### AUGUST 13, 2021



Marshall Tucker Band

AUGUST 27, 2021





#### **The Hooters**



**The Beach Boys** 

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## continued PARKS & RECREATION

Quakertown Borough



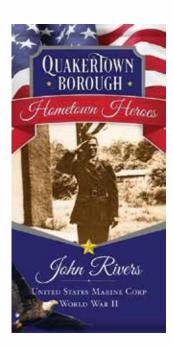


#### **HOMETOWN HERO BANNERS**

The Hometown Heroes Banner is closing on another successful year of the program. In coordination with the Johns Rivers Memorial, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 1132 began the program in November of 2018. The Hometown Heroes Banner program was created as a living tribute for the community to recognize and honor veterans who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. The program saw an overwhelming amount of success in its first year with over 100 banners flying high along the streets of Quakertown Borough. This success continued into the second year with an additional 30 banners.

To ensure the banners maximum life expectancy, the banners will be removed from the poles after Veteran's Day and will be stored at the John Rivers Memorial VFW Post 1132 through the winter. The Banners will again grace the streets of the Borough around Memorial Day of 2021. Quakertown Borough and John Rivers Memorial Post 1132 is always accepting banner applications. The banner application can be found on Quakertown Borough's website (Quakertown.org/hometownheroes) or at Quakertown Borough Hall.

If you would have any questions concerning qualification or the application, contact John Rivers VFW Post #1132 at (215)-536-0500.



#### PARKS & RECREATION continued

#### QUAKERTOWN VETERAN'S MEMORIAL COMMITTEE TO REVITALIZE WAR MEMORIAL LOCATED ON MILL STREET

The Borough of Quakertown has established a Quakertown Veterans' Memorial Committee in an effort to raise the funds necessary to restore and update the War Memorial located on Mill Street in Quakertown. The War Memorial, which was constructed in 1967 was built in memory of the Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines from this community who answered the call to service during World War I. Over the years, the condition of the Memorial and surrounding features has declined and are no longer representation of the community's appreciation for all who served. The project includes updating the plaza, installing new flag poles to



represent all of the military branches, adding two shelters to cover new park benches, updating the site lighting and landscaping, and restoring the monument.

The committee's goal is to have the project completed by Memorial Day of 2021. The Borough of Quakertown has committed to providing the labor and equipment to assist in the installation, but they need the community's help to cover the cost of the materials. The Quakertown Veterans' Memorial Committee is depending on the kindness and generosity of individuals, companies, and organizations of the greater Quakertown community to help fund this Memorial and recognize the sacrifices made by all who bravely served our Country. Donations and sponsorship opportunities can be found on Quakertown.org/WarMemorial.

#### **QUAKERTOWN ACTION PARK UPDATE**

The Quakertown Action Park Committee and Free Fall Action Sports team is thrilled with the progress being made at The Quakertown Action Park. Pivot Custom Parks arrived at the Quakertown Action Park on July 21 st, 2020 to begin construction of the concrete skatepark. Once completed, Quakertown Action Park will become a destination location, featuring a state-of-the-art skatepark. The new skatepark will showcase many exciting elements that will allow visitors of any skating level an opportunity for use. One of the more prominent features of this space will be a design that is shaped exactly like a swimming pool, which is a nice nod to how popular skating started. During drought conditions in California, individuals would drain their pools to conserve the resource. The drained pool, in turn, became a source of recreation for action sports enthusiasts. An additional hallmark feature of the Quakertown Action Park is a traversable concrete keystone, which adds a unique cosmetic choice by representing the state of Pennsylvania in its design. Other features, such as bowl that varies in depth, will be found throughout the space, offering alternative ways for skaters to recreate.

The long awaited skatepark was generously funded through local businesses, the Skatepark Project, and two state grants. In 2017, the Borough of Quakertown was awarded \$250,000 through The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Community Partnership Program. An additional \$100,000 was awarded by the Department of Community and Economic Development Greenways, Trail and Recreation Program. The funding of these grants was solidified through the matching funds provided by Bergey's Auto Dealership, Marcho Family, and the Clemens Family. We look forward to welcoming visitors from all over to enjoy Quakertown Action Park!



#### continued PARKS & RECREATION

#### **MEMORIAL PARK PLAYGROUND**

Have you noticed that Memorial Park is looking a little different? The beloved 27-year-old Panther Playground was dismantled in September 2020 due to safety concerns and to welcome a new all-inclusive playground. The new playground will feature a variety of play equipment that inspires creative play for visitors of all ages and equal opportunity of play. The Quakertown community can look forward to a playground that has two designated play areas for 2-5 years and 5-12 years, ADA accessibility, and a rubberized safety surfacing.

Before Panther Playground was dismantled, the Public Works Department was able to save all of the existing fence posts and artwork. Over 600 fence posts and 15 pieces of artwork were recovered! Throughout the months of October and November the Parks and Recreation Department distributed the fence posts and artwork back to the families, individuals, and business that purchased their fence post back in the Summer of 1993.

The new Memorial Park Playground will cost \$1.5 million. Quakertown Borough received \$250,000 in funding from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources through the Land and Water Conservation Fund. To help with funding efforts, the Parks and Recreation Department began a fundraising campaign on September 3rd, 2020 that allows local businesses and community members the opportunity to support the playground through sponsoring a piece of play equipment or a brick. Since the launch of the fundraising campaign, the Parks and Recreation Department has raised over \$15,000 for the new playground thanks to the generous donations from families and local businesses!

For more information and sponsorship opportunities visit Quakertown.org/Playground



PARKS & RECREATION continued



## continued PARKS & RECREATION

# SUMMER&FUN

K.I.D.S. Camp has been providing fun-filled summers to local children since 1972, and this summer will be no different! Each week has its own theme with all crafts, activities, and games relating to that theme. In addition, campers will have a weekly visitor, pool trips, and be able to sign up for field trips.

Week	Description	Field Trip		
<b>WEEK 1:</b> JUNE 28 - JULY 2 SUMMER KICK OFF	Time to unwind and get into the swing of summer. Be ready to enjoy a ton of activities, let out energy, and celebrate the start of summer!	NO TRIP		
WEEK 2: JULY 6 - JULY 9 *NO CAMP MONDAY, JULY 5H* CARNIVAL CRAZIES	Come one, come all we are bringing the carnival to camp! A week full of carnival themed games, crafts, & activities. Get ready to clownin' around!	Hawk Mountain		
<b>WEEK '3:</b> JULY 12 - JULY 16 TOO FAST	Grease your wheels, start your engines, and get ready to roll because this week is all about going fast!	Da Vinci Science Center		
<b>WEEK 4:</b> JULY 19 - JULY 23 NATURE UNLEASHED	Become one with nature this week as we learn all about navigating the wilderness and identifying everything that's around us!	Lehigh Valley Zoo		
WEEK 5: JULY 26 - JULY 30 HOLIDAYS IN JULY	Everyone has a favorite holidays, so why not celebrate them all! Join campers in celebrating Valentines, St. Patty's, Earth Day, Halloween, and many more!	LegoLand		
WEEK 6: AUG. 2 - AUG. 6 INTERCAMP OLYMPICS	Go for the gold! Campers will compete and participate in their own Olympics that will include traditional camp activities.	Crayola Factory		
<b>WEEK 7:</b> AIG. 9 - AUG. 13 MISSION IMPOSSIBLE	Join us for a week filled with top secret missions that will put your spy skills to the test! We will make and break codes, and use spy gadgets.	NO TRIP		

## **REGISTRATION OPENS FEB. 1 ON QUAKERTOWNREC.COM**



he high cost of home heating fuels and utilities have caused many Americans to search for alternate sources of home heating. The use of woodburning stoves is growing and space heaters are selling rapidly, or coming out of storage. Fireplaces are burning wood and manmade logs.

All these methods of heating may be acceptable. They are, however, a major contributing factor in residential fires. Many of these fires can be prevented. The following fire safety tips can help you maintain a fire safe home this winter.

#### **Kerosene Heaters**

- + Be sure that kerosene heaters are legal in your area.
- Be sure your heater is in good working condition. Inspect exhaust parts for carbon buildup. Be sure the heater has an emergency shut off in case the heater is tipped over.
- Never use fuel burning appliances without proper room venting. Burning fuel (coal, kerosene, or propane, for example) can produce deadly fumes.
- Use ONLY the fuel recommended by the heater manufacturer. NEVER introduce a fuel into a unit not designed for that type fuel.
- Keep kerosene, or other flammable liquids stored in approved metal containers, in well ventilated storage areas, outside of the house.
- NEVER fill the heater while it is operating or hot. When refueling an oil or kerosene unit, avoid overfilling.
- Refueling should be done outside of the home (or outdoors). Keep young children away from space heaters—especially when they are wearing night gowns or other loose clothing that can be easily ignited.
- When using a fuel burning appliance in the bedroom, be sure there is proper ventilation to prevent a buildup of carbon monoxide.

#### Wood Stoves And Fireplaces

Wood stoves and fireplaces are becoming a very common heat source in homes. Careful attention to safety can minimize their fire hazard.

#### **TO USE THEM SAFELY:**

- Be sure the fireplace or stove is installed properly. Wood stoves should have adequate clearance (36") from combustible surfaces and proper floor support and protection.
- Wood stoves should be of good quality, solid construction and design, and should be laboratory tested.
- Have the chimney inspected annually and cleaned if necessary, especially if it has not been used for some time.
- Do not use flammable liquids to start or accelerate any fire.
- Keep a glass or metal screen in front of the fireplace opening, to prevent embers or sparks from jumping out, unwanted material from going in, and help prevent the possibility of burns to occupants.
- The stove should be burned hot twice a day for 15-30 minutes to reduce the amount of creosote buildup.

continued on reverse

- Don't use excessive amounts of paper to build roaring fires in fireplaces. It is possible to ignite creosote in the chimney by overbuilding the fire.
- Never burn charcoal indoors. Burning charcoal can give off lethal amounts of carbon monoxide.
- Keep flammable materials away from your fireplace mantel. A spark from the fireplace could easily ignite theses materials.
- Before you go to sleep, be sure your fireplace fire is out. NEVER close your damper with hot ashes in the fireplace. A closed damper will help the fire to heat up again and will force toxic carbon monoxide into the house.
- If synthetic logs are used, follow the directions on the package. NEVER break a synthetic log apart to quicken the fire or use more than one log at a time. They often burn unevenly, releasing higher levels of carbon monoxide.

#### FURNACE HEATING

- It is important that you have your furnace inspected to ensure that it is in good working condition.
- Be sure all furnace controls and emergency shutoffs are in proper working condition.
- Leave furnace repairs to qualified specialists. Do not attempt repairs yourself unless you are qualified. Inspect the walls and ceiling near the furnace and along the chimney line. If the wall is hot or discolored, additional pipe insulation or clearance may be required.
- Check the flue pipe and pipe seams. Are they well supported and free of holes and cracks? Soot along or around seams may be an indicator of a leak.
- Is the chimney solid, with cracks or loose bricks? All unused flue openings should be sealed with solid masonry.
- Keep trash and other combustibles away from the heating system.

#### OTHER FIRE SAFETY TIPS

Never discard hot ashes inside or near the home. Place them in a metal container outside and well away from the house.

- Never use a range or an oven as a supplemental heating device. Not only is it a safety hazard, it can be a source of potentially toxic fumes.
- If you use an electric heater, be sure not to overload the circuit. Only use extension cords which have the necessary rating to carry an amp load.
   TIP: Choose an extension cord the same size or larger than the appliance electrical cord.
- Avoid using electrical space heaters in bathrooms or other areas where they may come in contact with water.
- Frozen water pipes? Never try to thaw them with a blow torch or other open flame, otherwise the pipe could conduct the heat and ignite the wall structure inside the wall space. Use hot water or a laboratory tested device such as a hand held dryer for thawing.
- If windows are used as emergency exits in your home, practice using them in the event fire should strike. Be sure that all the windows open easily. Home escape ladders are recommended.
- If there is a fire hydrant near your home you can assist the fire department by keeping the hydrant clear of snow so in the event it is needed, it can be located.

#### FINALLY...

- Be sure every level of your home has a working smoke alarm, and be sure to check and clean it on a monthly basis.
- Plan and practice a home escape plan with your family.
- Contact your local fire department for advice if you have a question on home fire safety.



For more information or copies of this publication, please contact:

Department of Homeland Security • U.S. Fire Administration 16825 South Seton Avenue • Emmitsburg, Maryland 21727 800-561-3356 • www.usfa.dhs.gov

FA-249F/March 2008



#### **QUAKERTOWN BOROUGH HOSTS 10TH ANNUAL SHOP WITH A COP**

On Thursday, December 10th, 2020 the Quakertown Borough Police Department hosted its 10 th annual Shop with a Cop program at the Quakertown Walmart. Shop with a Cop is a national program pairing police officers with children to afford them a better Christmas. The program allows children to view police officers in a different atmosphere to promote positive relationships. This program is geared toward Quakertown School District children at the elementary levels. The children are faced with life challenges such as a parent losing a job, homelessness, military deployment, economic shortcomings, and other hardships.

Over the past year the committee raided over \$50,000, and 180 selected children had the opportunity to shop with an officer. Joining the Quakertown Police Department this year were officers from: Richland Township, Springfield Township, Dublin Borough, Pennsylvania State Police - Dublin Barracks, Hilltown Township, PA State Game Commission. Bedminster Township, Marlborough Township, Newtown Township, and Warwick Township.

The Quakertown Borough Police Department and the Shop with a Cop Committee would like to give a big thank you to all our generous and dedicated sponsors, local police departments, and volunteers.



**THANK YOU TO OUR 2020** SHOP WITH A COP SPONSORS! VITH A SANTA Walmart McDonald's of Quakertown Merck Sharp & Dohme FCU Care and Share Thrift Shoppes **Quaker Color** Advantage Auto Sales & Credit Morning Star Fellowship C.R. Strunk Inc. Artisan's Cabinetry & Design **Dunkin Donuts** Gerhart, Darwin & Evelyn EGW Inc. Chick-Fil-A Kwik Goal L & L Construction, Inc. **Milford Sportswear** C & C Confections Calvery Church SNOWMAN Quakertown Rotary Club American Legion Post 242 Kulp Roofing Richland Township Water Authority Beer City Lepko Management LLC Burkee Climate Control McMackin, Elizabeth & Patrick Canine Safety Systems Midas of Melody Lakes Doyle, Kathie North Penn Gun Club Giovanni's Pizza Quakertown Cares Golden Scissors Penn Stainless Products, Inc. Employees Adtell Integration REINDEER American Legion Post 242 Krause Home & Lawn Care Ames Chiropractic Makowski, Kathleen Broad Street Preservationists LP Marciello, Robert & Vanessa Caseys Kilcar House Hotel Inc. Minarik, Perry & Sue Cunnane, Carrie Mitchell, David & Pat David Midkiff Esquire Oschmann, Patricia Gravatt, Margaret & Timothy Potsko Family Grim Biehn Thatcher **Quakertown Dental** Knauss Foods LLC ELF Grace Bible Fellowship Church Pepper & Blue Salon and Spa Joyce, Denise & Joseph Barth Family K & R Auto Sales Bless, Joan & Floyd Kratz, Kimberly Bracalente Manufacturing Group Lanyon, Theresa & Christopher Brandis, Scott and Roxanne Lewis Brothers Bucks County Fur Products Maye Dental Associates Dairy Queen of Quakertown McCrossin, Michael Dimmick, Jason & Jennifer Mease Engineering EZ Wash Auto Spa Mindler, John and Stella Faith Covenant Church Nagurny, John & Nadine Friday, Linda Pat Bleam's Styling Salon Gilles Properties Paulovitz, Georganna & Thomas Godshall, Thomas & Leigh Penn Community Bank Gouldey Welding & Fabrications Inc. Pulse Technologies Inc Hannahoe, Jonathan & Lauren ONR **Ouakertown Business & Professional** Herrlinger Financial Group, LLC

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