



North Braddock News

Resident News From North Braddock Network

DECEMBER 2018

Volume 2, Number 2

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ABOUT THE NEWSLETTER:

North Braddock Network is a resident social media outlet that started in Nov. 2009. The newsletter was launched in Nov. 2016.

northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com
NBFACEBOOK1@GMAIL.COM

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Wishing neighbors, business owners, & boro employees a happy holiday! Have a joyous safe holiday season and a happy new year! Check out the community holiday video by searching “North Braddock Happy Holidays” on YouTube at https://youtu.be/PH_G5Dq3OaI.

3RD ANNUAL BREAKFAST WITH SANTA



The North Braddock Garden Club organized the 3RD Annual Breakfast with Santa event on Saturday, December 1, 2018. The event was held at the fire station on Wolfe Avenue with delicious pancakes, bacon, sausage, & fruit. The fun included cookie decorating and photo booths with a photographer.

PROPOSED BUDGET HOLDS TAX RATE

BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS: (Information from Borough Manager)

The 2019 preliminary borough budget is proposed for \$3,276,900. The budget increases by \$65,200 due to the mandated 7% increase (\$53,294) in ALCOSAN sewer rates.

2019 ALCOSAN customer service charges increases by \$1.09, from \$15.60 to \$16.69 per bill issued. The 2019 ALCOSAN treatment charge increases 52 cents, from \$7.42 to \$7.94 for each 1,000 gallons of water used. Borough sewer rates are unchanged. Borough sewer rates were decreased in 2013 and again in 2014. The Borough collects the ALCOSAN user fee and passes the fee to ALCOSAN based on quarterly invoicing.

Refuse fees were reduced in 2015 and remain at \$120 a year. 2019 Real Estate Taxes remain at 11 mills. Real Estate taxes have not increased in 10 years.

The 2019 General Fund revenues essentially match those budgeted in 2018 except for the correction to the sewer revenue receipts and minor adjustments based on actual collections. Liquid Fuels State funding is budgeted at \$175,700. These funds are restricted by statute for use on public works activities. Liquid fuel funds are allocated for street light and salt supply expenditures.

Police department employees are projected to receive a 2% increase in wages based on 2019 on-going negotiations. All other employees except the Manager will receive a 2% increase and \$21,300 is allocated in the street department budget to hire three (3) summer employees to continue the effort to maintain abandoned lots.

\$100,000 is budgeted as a transfer to the capital fund for Borough expenditures related to the rehabilitation of sewer trunk lines scheduled to be transferred to ALCOSAN.

2018 ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

SEWER PROJECTS:

Completed emergency sewer & inlet repairs at the following locations: North Main (2 locations), 13th Street, Erma Street, Terrace Street, Bell & Congress, Beech Street, 6th Street, Copeland Avenue, Ravine, Mill Road, McDonough, Brinton Avenue, Price Street, Maple Alley, North Avenue, Spring Street, Kirkpatrick Avenue, Sheridan Avenue, Bowers Street and Long Way. Total cost at \$85,000.

STRUCTURE DEMOLITION:

9 structures were demolished with CDBG grant funding and private party demolition. Ten additional demolitions are approved with CITF grant funding.

CODE ENFORCEMENT:

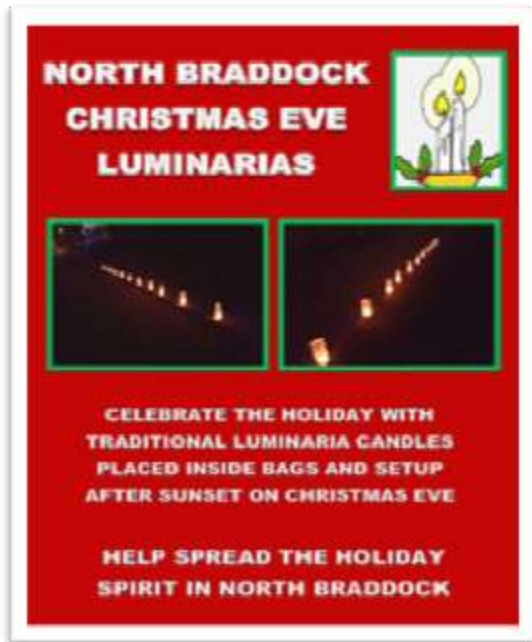
The code official issued 167 code enforcement letters of violation, 405 occupancy/rental permits and 19 building permits through October of this year. The department generated in excess of \$25,000 in fees through October of this year. That amount offsets more than 50% of the cost of code enforcement.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Installed street side security cameras and improved street lighting in high crime areas assisting police effectiveness. The police department responded to over 6000 service calls, towed 61 abandoned vehicles and tagged 207 non-compliant vehicles through October of this year.

Check out the borough budget posted online at <https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/budget.html>.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT LUMINARIAS



Light up North Braddock with joy & cheer on Christmas Eve. Celebrate the holiday with traditional luminaria candles placed inside bags and setup along the sidewalk after sunset on Christmas Eve. Luminary kits are often sold by nearby communities for a fundraiser in Swissvale & Edgewood. Residents can make your own kits with sand, brown bags, & candles. Help expand this tradition across the three neighborhood wards in North Braddock.



TOWN HALL MEETING

Concerned residents organized a town hall meeting at Shady Park Place on Wednesday, December 12. The room was full of residents and local officials who care about North Braddock. State Rep. Summer Lee's assistant was involved in the discussion that covered what residents can contribute, community organizations, important issues, visions for improvement, forming work groups on projects, & running for local government. Future meetings were suggested to keep community members engaged in working together.



WINTER WEATHER TIPS

Basic tips during the winter weather months:

- Never leave vehicles unattended to warm up
- Never blow or shovel snow into the public street
- Use off street parking if available for salt trucks to have better street access
- Clear all sidewalks & steps for pedestrians & mail carriers
- Check on elderly neighbors during extreme cold weather
- Have furnaces checked & practice safety when using space heaters & other heat sources



COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FUNDING

The joint comprehensive plan is underway with Braddock, North Braddock, & East Pittsburgh. The project is not a community merger and meetings are ongoing with community members. Contact council member Vicki Vargo if interested in participating in the North Braddock plan development. Evolve is the acquired consulting firm for the project. Braddock requested state funding for the project and the required public hearing was held on Dec. 3 to discuss the funding request.



ANNUAL ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

The borough was able to complete a number of road improvements this year.

- Tons of asphalt was used to patch the numerous deficient streets after the last winter season.
- Deficient sections of Ridge Avenue and Beech Street were completed with borough funding.
- An off street parking lot was expanded on Beech Street with parking restricted from Ridge to Willow.
- 4th Street paving was shared with WPJWA after the waterline project with a \$25,000 boro contribution.
- 6th Street paving was funded by the CITF grant and the boro contribution of around \$30,000.
- Boro funding addressed the 6th Street water run off problem with new piping at a cost of \$36,918.



SERGEANT NAMED OFFICER IN CHARGE

Sergeant Isaac Daniele was named the Officer in Charge of the police department while the police chief is on medical leave from the position. Council advertised for an acting chief appointment and decided to promote from within the department. Officer in Charge Daniele is available during the daylight shift and at council meetings. Contact 911 for police services. Non-emergency dispatch reached at 412.473.3056.



FIRE FUND DRIVE

NBVFD fund drive is distributed to residences for voluntary contributions. The fire service is operated by volunteers with the boro providing insurance & fuel expenses. Help support the organization with an affordable donation. All proceeds maintain the fire & rescue service for residents. Any inquires can call the fire station at 412-824-7791. Make checks payable to North Braddock Volunteer Fire Department Inc. Mail to: PO Box 188, North Braddock PA 15104.

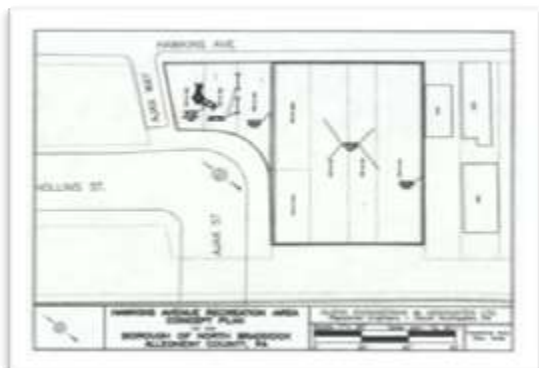


HAPPY RETIREMENT

Street Department full-time employee Joe Cecere retired on September 1, 2018 after many decades with the borough. Joe was always ready to lend a helping hand and attend the annual cleanup day. We thank Joe for his years of service and contributions made to the community. Enjoy many years of deserved retirement.



WARD 3 PARK FUNDING



Commonwealth Financing Authority approved a \$25,000 grant to help develop the proposed playground on Hawkins Avenue. Vacant land is being acquired and a future public park is being planned for residents in Ward 3. Council member Mike Breaston led the support for the park in his district.

YOUTH FOOTBALL CHAMPS



Congratulations to the Swissvale Braddock Wolverines Youth Football midget team for winning the WPYAA Championship in the first season for the merged organization. The sky is the limit for this new community partnership in seasons to come. Congrats SB Wolverines!

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

North Braddock Borough
2019 Open Election Races
Officials Serve Four Year Terms
Municipal Primary: May 21, 2019
Municipal Election: November 5, 2019

COUNCIL - WARD 1

Michael Dobrinich (D)
(Council Vice-President)
Term Expires December 2019

COUNCIL - WARD 2

John Vahosky (D)
(Council President)
Term Expires December 2019

COUNCIL - WARD 3

Michael Breaston (D)
(Ward 3 Council Member)
Term Expires December 2019

Appointed Official TBA
(Ward 3 Council Member)
Term Expires December 2019

There will be four (4) council seats expiring in December 2019. Currently there is one Ward 3 vacancy due to Joe Barbusio's resignation. Ward 3 residents can apply before the meeting on Dec. 18. The seat will be appointed and the position will be up for election in 2019. All candidates can register for the May primary election in the coming months. Check out the Allegheny County Elections Division website.

<https://www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/index.aspx>

Two residents were appointed to the zoning hearing board in October 2018. Tim Bridge & Sheila White were selected from three applicants.

Volunteers are still needed for appointments on the resident planning commission.

FUN AT THE SPRAY PARK

The Brinton Avenue spray park finally opened this summer as a new place to cool off in the summer heat. Kids enjoyed the new attraction at the public park in Ward 1. The water mist device is activated by the push of a button with the water spray on a timed cycle. The spray park will definitely provide fun for years to come. Thank you to everyone that worked on the park renovation.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZING

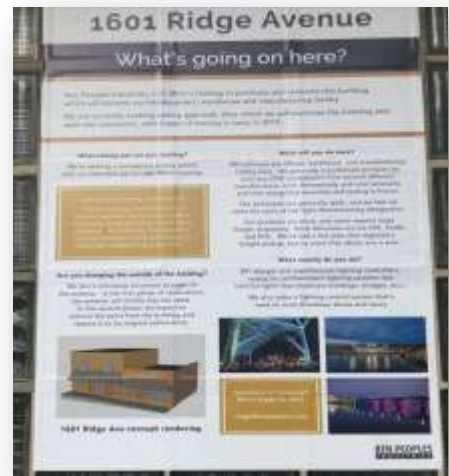


Neighbors Helping Neighbors North Braddock identifies untapped skills and resources within the community and helps residents share those assets with their neighbors. The volunteer residents organize block parties and other collaborative events. Check them out on [Facebook](#).

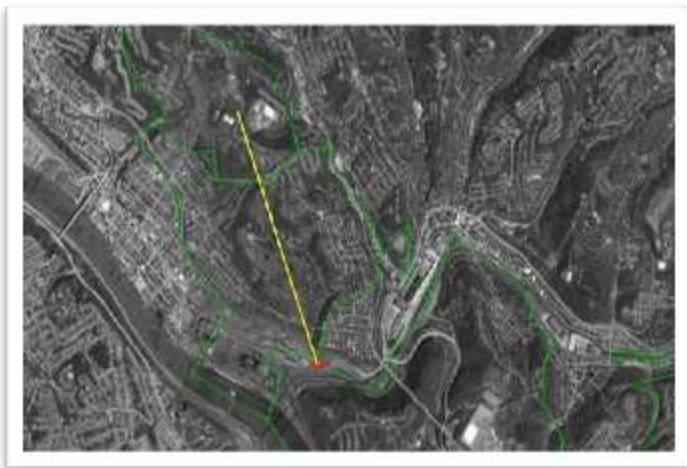
RIDGE AVENUE ZONING

Ben Peoples Industries is interested in purchasing a vacant property and moving their business from the Southside to North Braddock. A former bar and lounge at 1601 Ridge Avenue fits their needs for expanding. The company is growing their client base around Pittsburgh & across the country. An informative poster was posted on the property for future plans.

The zoning hearing board met on Oct. 29, 2018 and recommended the zoning variance in the residential zone.



FIGHT AGAINST FRACKING



North Braddock Residents for Our Future meet monthly and discuss ways to prevent unconventional gas drilling. Consultant John Detwiler presented a map with the potential location of the first lateral starting at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works and passing under North Braddock & Braddock Hills. The group is holding ongoing fundraisers for a legal defense fund. The next fundraiser is selling items Dec. 14-16 on Wolfe Avenue. Check out their [Facebook](#) page for ongoing events and information.

Merrion Oil & Gas confirmed facts:

- *Laterals will be 2 miles long
- *Lateral path has been determined
- *Application copies given to 11 municipalities
- *Gas wells will be in production for 20-30 years

NEIGHBOR RULES

Have courtesy for neighbors and remember to abide by some of the common quality of life ordinances.

Ordinance 1022:

Trash containers shall not be placed by the owner or customer at the collection point before 7:00 PM on the day proceeding the pick-up day. Containers shall be returned to the storage area on the customer's premises by 7:00 PM on the pick-up day.

Ordinance 1048:

Illegal vehicles will be tagged and towed by the police department. Keep all vehicles inspected, registered, and in running order. Abandoned illegal vehicles can be removed from private property after the code enforcement ordinance process.

Ordinance 1083:

Bulk waste is required to have a dumpster or be hauled away. Boro trash collection will not collect bulk waste. Owners & occupants cleaning out a home must follow these rules.

STREET LIGHT OUTAGES

For street lights needing repaired, please retrieve the pole number or pole location. Report the malfunctioning street light to the street department supervisor at 412.271.3647.



WOODLAND HILLS NEWS

Winter Sports:

The winter sports schedules are underway. The football team made the WPIAL playoffs for the 30th time in 32 seasons. The team advanced to the WPIAL quarter-finals.

Junior High Musical:

Into the Woods Jr. (grades 7-9 from both the Jr/Sr High and Academy) is presented at the Thomas G. Crone Auditorium at Woodland Hills Junior Senior High January 10-12 at 7:30pm with a Saturday matinee at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$7 and available at the door, or 6:00-8:00pm on 1/3, 1/8, 1/9, and one hour before each performance. There will be a chance for some audience participation.

Winter Concerts:

All are free to the public at the following times and buildings.

Tuesday, December 11 at 7:00pm – WH Junior High Band, Orchestra, and Chorus Winter Concert

Thursday, December 13 at 10:00am – WH Intermediate School Intermediate Orchestra, Intermediate Band, and 6th grade Chorus

Tuesday, December 18 at 7:00pm – WH Academy 7th & 8th grade Band, Orchestra, and Chorus

Wednesday, December 19 at 7:00pm – WH High School Concert Band, Intermediate & Advanced Choirs, and 9th grade Band

Thursday, December 20 at 7:00pm – WH High School Orchestra, Jazz Band, and Chamber Choir

Kindergarten Registration:

Kindergarten registration for 2019-2020 school year is quickly approaching. Children **MUST** be 5 years old by September 1, 2019. Completed student registration forms can be brought to the Primary Schools during the dates and times listed below. Please bring your child with kindergarten screenings completed during these dates. More info on the website <https://www.whsd.k12.pa.us/>.

Tuesday, February 05, 2019 - Edgewood Primary, 12-7pm

Wednesday, February 06, 2019 - Wilkins Primary, 12-7pm

Thursday, February 07, 2019 - WH Academy, 12-7pm

1ST Annual Stand Against Violence Basketball Showcase:

The tournament is composed of various high school boys' basketball teams from all over the eastern region, whose home cities/communities are constantly affected by street violence.

Saturday, Sunday, & Monday January 19th -21st, 2019 (MLK Weekend)

Woodland Hills High School, 2550 Greensburg Pike, Pittsburgh, PA.

Presented by: Woodland Hills Athletic Department

Sponsored by: Frank Walker Law, IGS Energy

Supported by: WHSD HUGS

<https://www.facebook.com/events/731518853900778/>



BUSINESSES OF THE MONTH

This issue features two of the new businesses in the community.

PIZONS MARKET

1536 Brinton Avenue
North Braddock, PA 15104
pizonsmarket@gmail.com

Pizons Market is the newest neighborhood store that opened in the recent year. The convenient store offers your basic local store needs on Brinton Avenue. Pizons is located at the former Bill's Market & Martino's Pizza.



ARI'S PLACE HAIR SALON

1500 Locust Street
North Braddock, PA 15104
412.271.1918
<https://www.facebook.com/ArisPlace88/>

Ari's Place Hair Salon is the newest hair salon that opened this year on Locust Street. Stop by for all your hair styling needs at a convenient location with friendly staff. Ari's is located at the former Nina's Place Hair Salon.



EXPLORE NORTH BRADDOCK

EXPLORE THE HISTORIC COMMUNITY OF NORTH BRADDOCK

REASONS TO MOVE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS TO NORTH BRADDOCK

- **MINUTES FROM HIGHWAY ROUTES 30 & 22, INTERSTATE 376, INTERSTATE 76, ETC. SHORT TRAVEL COMMUTE TO DOWNTOWN PITTSBURGH.**
- **ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION ROUTES**
- **AFFORDABLE REAL ESTATE FOR HOME BUYERS AND BUSINESS OWNERS**
- **ENTERPRISE ZONE LOAN ASSISTANCE & OTHER HELP FOR BUSINESSES**
- **MINUTES AWAY FROM SHOPPING DESTINATIONS AT THE WATERFRONT & MONROEVILLE**
- **TOURISM ASSETS INCLUDING BRADDOCK'S BATTLEFIELD HISTORY CENTER, BRADDOCK'S DEFEAT SITE, GRAND VIEW GOLF CLUB, ETC.**
- **HOMETOWN BUSINESSES INCLUDING THE FAMOUS VINCENT'S PIZZA PARK**
- **ONE MINUTE AWAY FROM THE FIRST CARNEGIE LIBRARY IN BRADDOCK**
- **YOUTH BASEBALL, YOUTH FOOTBALL, YOUTH GYMNASTICS, & BOY SCOUTS**
- **THREE COMMUNITY PARKS & ONE YOUTH GARDEN**
- **LARGE DIVERSE SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFERING ACADEMICS, ATHLETICS, PERFORMING ARTS, EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES, ETC.**
- **PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES BASED IN TOWN FOR POLICE, FIRE, & EMS**
- **GROUPS PROMOTING REVITALIZATION INCLUDING NORTH BRADDOCK CARES, MON VALLEY INITIATIVE, & NORTH BRADDOCK GARDEN CLUB**
- **ACTIVE INITIATIVES FOR RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT & CRIME WATCH THRU SOCIAL MEDIA & THE NEXTDOOR NEIGHBORHOOD APPLICATION**

**NORTH BRADDOCK, PA – THE BIRTH PLACE OF STEEL
COME REBUILD & REGROW WITH US
NORTH BRADDOCK NETWORK
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/NORTHBRADDOCK**



NORTH BRADDOCK DIRECTORY
600 ANDERSON STREET
NORTH BRADDOCK, PA 15104

Manager – Doug Marguriet
(412) 271-1306
nbmgr@comcast.net

Mayor – Tom Whyel
(412) 271-2262
tdwhyel@verizon.net

Acting Police Chief – Isaac Daniele
(412) 351-4902
nbpolice@comcast.net

Fire Chief – Anthony Rydzak
(412) 824-7791
arydzak@station207.com

Code Official – Dave Andrews
(412) 271-0832
nbcodes@gmail.com

Street Dept. – Charles Nigro
(412) 271-3647
streetdept@northbraddockborough.com

Tax Collector – Diane Tomasic
(412) 351-5500

Animal Control – Sable Kennel
(412) 660-2350

Magistrate – Scott Schricker
(412) 824-6201

Braddock Carnegie Library
(412) 351-5357

US Post Office – Braddock Office
(412) 271-4165

Woodland Hills School District
(412) 731-1300

BIG's Sanitation Collection
(724) 379-4331

Duquesne Light Company
(412) 393-7000 (Emergency)

Peoples Gas Company
1-800-400-4271 (Emergency)

Wilkesburg Penn Joint Water
(412) 243-6200

POLICE, FIRE, EMS
911

UPCOMING CALENDAR:

Council Monthly Meetings

600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building
Tuesday, December 18, 7:00 PM
Tuesday, January 16, 7:00PM

NB Cares Monthly Meetings

600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building
Last Monday of Each Month, 6:30 PM

NB Residents for Our Future Meetings

419 Library Street, Braddock Carnegie Library
Meetings announced on Facebook

NB Garden Club Meetings

1318 Wolfe Avenue, Fire Station #1
Meetings announced on Facebook

Woodland Hills School District Meetings

531 Jones Avenue, Administration Building
January 9, 7:00 PM, Agenda Meeting
January 16, 7:00 PM, Legislative Meeting

Braddock Toy Drive 2018

Braddock Avenue at 6th Street
December 21, 5:00 PM

Email suggestions for future articles and let us know if you would like to contribute or subscribe to the publication at nbfacebook1@gmail.com.
<https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/newsletter.html>



Check out the official boro website.
www.northbraddockborough.com

Check out the North Braddock Network website created & maintained by community members.
<https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/>