



North Braddock News

Resident Newsletter From North Braddock Network

January 2017

Volume 1, Number 2

In This Issue

- Volunteers Have Holiday Spirit
- Street Improvements
- Resident Information Session
- Borough Budget Passed
- Building Demolition
- Surveillance Cameras Installed
- Nextdoor Postcards
- Business Of The Month
- Upcoming Events

About Us:

North Braddock Network is a resident social media group that started in 2009. Residents keep neighbors engaged with what is happening around the birth place of steel. Our network has expanded and been established on Facebook, Twitter, NBN Website, YouTube, Etc. Be sure to check out North Braddock Network on all of the online platforms. This is the first volume for the newsletter to experiment with a new idea to promote and engage the community.

www.northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com
www.facebook.com/northbraddock
www.twitter.com/nbraddocknet
nbfacebook1@gmail.com

Volunteers Have Holiday Spirit

North Braddock Garden Club held their first annual Breakfast With Santa event at the North Braddock VFD. The Garden Club had a special visit from Santa with approximately 30 children in attendance. The volunteer group also collected about 21 toys for the Toys For Tots program.

North Braddock Cares held their annual Winter Festival at the Ben Fairless School gymnasium. Local children under the age of 10 were registered to receive a free gift at the event. Santa made a special visit to hand out the toys with help from USW Next Generation 1219 & Athletic Trauma Unit providing the gifts.

North Braddock VFD held their annual Christmas party for the children of the department's members. The firefighters have a tradition of providing a gift for the children. Santa made an appearance to talk to the kids. The organization held their traditional adult party later that evening. NBVFD is all volunteers and serving the community since 1900.



(Photo from Georgi Cecere & North Braddock Garden Club)

Street Improvements

The Street Department continues to replace street signs that are damaged or missing. New street signs are more noticeable with a reflective green background. Streets should be properly marked for public safety & home deliveries. If your street needs a new street sign, call the garage at 412.271.3647 or nbmgr@comcast.net.

Red reflective decals are being added to stop signs throughout the borough. The red decals improve stop sign visibility for safety so motorists stop at every designated intersection.

A new Ford F-350 dump truck is due to arrive very soon and be placed in service. Adding the new truck provides three dump trucks and one pickup truck capable of salting & plowing 26 miles of borough roads. The aluminum bed truck is equipped with a salt spreader & plow for winter street maintenance. This new truck replaces an aging truck that was deteriorating with age. The retired truck was auctioned off to the highest bidder for \$1,500.



Resident Information Session



North Braddock Cares is planning a resident information session on Monday, January 30, 2017 at 6:30 PM. All residents are encouraged to attend the meeting for public information. Various topics are planned to be shared with the local residents. Find out contact methods for neighborhood issues. Learn how you can run for public office. Gather information on how you can make a difference in the community. There will be many informative topics to improve resident engagement amongst neighbors. Everyone is welcome to attend the event at the Municipal Building on January 30. Questions referred to northbraddockcaresinc@gmail.com.

Borough Budget Passed

Council passed the 2017 borough budget at the December council meeting. The budget is set at \$3,196,700 for the upcoming year. That is slightly lower than the 2016 budget that was \$3,340,400. The real estate millage remains the same at 11 mills. The refuse rate remains \$120 / year. Borough sewer rates remain \$5.75 / 1000 gallons. Alcosan sewer rates increase 11%. A full detailed budget copy will be obtained for resident reference. Below you can read the preliminary budget breakdown. Any questions on the budget can be referred to the manager at nbmgr@comcast.net or 412.271.1306.

REVENUES

Taxes (Realty & Act 511) - \$1,055,200

License & Permits - \$85,000

Fines - \$18,500

Interest & Rents - \$2,000

Intergovernmental - \$286,200

Departmental - \$1,370,800

Miscellaneous - \$5,000

Other Financing - \$374,000

TOTAL REVENUES: \$3,196,700

EXPENDITURES

General Government - \$265,700

Public Safety (Police & Fire) - \$637,200

Sanitation (Refuse & Sewer) - \$1,086,400

Highways - \$517,000

Recreation & Civic - \$7,000

Debt Service - \$257,600

Miscellaneous - \$396,600

Other Financing - \$29,200

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$3,196,700

Vacant Building Demolition

North Braddock is always working to address the epidemic of abandoned buildings in the community. The borough receives allotted funding from CDBG grants for building demolition. Emergency demolition funding is also sought through Allegheny County to bring down unsafe structures. Tearing down vacant homes is very costly to hire contractors. North Braddock has nearly 400 buildings that need to come down to rebuild the community and improve public safety. Federal & state funding needs to be increased to help struggling towns. If you know of buildings that aren't secure, you should notify the borough of the addresses to prevent people from entering the unsafe structures.



(Photo from John Hempel)
Vacant home set for demolition on Walnut St.
(712 Baldrige Avenue – Rear)

Properties known to be demolished this year:
218 Lobinger Avenue - \$6,550
1620 Grandview Avenue - \$5,800
524 Lobinger Avenue - \$13,800

Recent building permits issued for demolition:
712 Baldrige Avenue Rear
1325 Bell Avenue
1327 Bell Avenue
1329 Bell Avenue
806 Hawkins Avenue
542 Lobinger Avenue

More information on vacant structures can be obtained from the code enforcement office.
412.271.0832, nbcodes@gmail.com

Surveillance Cameras Installed

Cameras have been installed in the area of Jones Avenue & Baldrige Avenue. The cameras are supposed to have excellent surveillance capabilities to watch activity in the area. Mayor Whyel reported at the December council meeting that the camera technology should be implemented in other areas in the future to improve public safety.

If you see suspicious activity in the area or any other part of town, don't hesitate to notify the police department. Public officials are concentrating on this area since many neighborhood problems stimulate from this area.

The neighborhood watch is always in effect. Watch out for neighbors and their property. Report suspicious activity immediately to 911. It takes a village to improve the community.

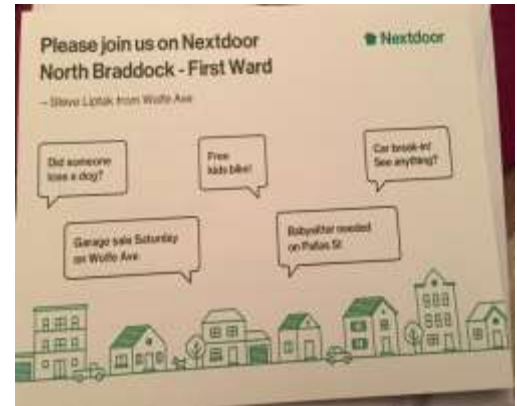
Submit non-emergency tips to
nbpolice@comcast.net or 412.351.4902.



Nextdoor Postcards Recruit Resident Involvement

Nextdoor leads are mailing out postcards to addresses in First Ward to recruit residents to join the private network. Consider joining with easy directions included on the postcard. Residents are sharing information and communicating with one another to build a stronger neighborhood. Visit <http://www.nextdoor.com> or download the application on the Google Play Store to create your user account with your local address.

If you have any questions on signing up, contact nbfacebook1@gmail.com.



Business of the Month

Nina's Place Hair Salon

1500 Locust Street
North Braddock, PA 15104
412.271.1918

Owner Nina Burdell Vecchio was a longtime resident, former council president of North Braddock, and active member in North Braddock Cares. Nina's Place was originally located on Brinton Avenue but moved to the current location on Locust Street. Nina's is a full service salon welcoming men, women, & children. Services offered include cuts, color, perms, up-dos, relaxers, waxing, manicures, & pedicures. The salon is a convenient hometown location with off-street parking and friendly staff. We honor Nina's Place as the "Business of the Month."

Check out the local hair salon on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/Ninas-Place-Hair-Salon-238249132861942



Upcoming Events:

Council Meeting

Jan. 17, 7:00 PM, Municipal Building, 600 Anderson Street

NB Cares Resident Information Meeting

Jan. 30, 6:30 PM, Municipal Building, 600 Anderson Street

Watch North Braddock Holidays Video

<https://youtu.be/KLeAhJjNZ5A>

**Email us suggestions for future newsletter articles.
Also let us know if you would like to become a
contributing writer for the publication.**

nbfacebook1@gmail.com



HAPPY HOLIDAYS! HAPPY NEW YEAR!

**WISHING OUR NEIGHBORS A HAPPY, HEALTHY,
PROSPEROUS & SAFE NEW YEAR!**

NB
NETWORK

BY THE RESIDENTS
FOR THE RESIDENTS
GRASSROOTS SINCE 2009