

North Braddock News

A Newsletter From The North Braddock Network

MARCH 2020

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RADDOCK NETWORK "Community & Residents First"



The North Braddock Network grassroots resident newsletter was launched in 2016. northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com facebook.com/northbraddocknetwork nbfacebook1@gmail.com

PANDEMIC CLOSES BOROUGH OFFICES



Volume 4, Number 1

Borough officials advised residents that the borough building would be closed to the public as of Monday, March 16, 2020 as Allegheny County battles the COVID-19 pandemic. Employees are working with borough business handled by phone, email, & fax. https://northbraddockborough.com/

SOCIAL DISTANCING CANCELS COUNCIL MEETING

The council meeting scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020 was canceled due to social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic. There hasn't been a rescheduled date for the meeting. Social distancing will alter the way local governments conduct business during the health crisis. Plans are evolving on how to continue with meetings and operations. Public meetings are normally the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM. Stay informed on future announcements for upcoming meetings.

CLEAN UP DAY POSTPONED



Annual Clean Up Headquarters at Woodland Hills Administration Center (Ben Fairless School) The annual 15104 Clean-Up Day scheduled for Saturday, April 25, 2020 will be postponed to a later date. The headquarters for supplies will be located at the Woodland Hills Administration Center on Jones Avenue. Stay tuned for the upcoming date as we continue to struggle with the coronavirus pandemic.

Clean Up Day Page

EMERGENCY STATEMENT (3.16.20)

THOMAS WHYEL

MEMBERS OF COUNCIL

MIKE DOBRINICH

MIKE BREASTON BRIDGETTE COBBS LENA DIXON THERESA PARKER CHRIS ROLAND JEROME SEPESY VICKY VARGO

BOROUGH OF NORTH BRADDOCK

IINCORPORATED 1897

MUNICIPAL BUILDING 600 ANDERSON STREET NORTH BRADDOCK, PA 15104 PHONE (412) 271-1306 EMAIL: NBMGR@COMCAST.NET





"Our Heritage"

DOUGLAS P. MARGURIET MANAGER JOHN BACHARACH SOLICITOR

> ISAAC DANIELE Interim Police Chief

Residents of North Braddock,

The North Braddock Emergency Management officials have been closely monitoring and continuously receiving updates on the recent events concerning the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been several cases in Western Pennsylvania confirmed and will most likely increase over the next several weeks. With that being said, there has been a lot of panic. At this time there is no need to panic. The Allegheny County Health Department (ACHD) has full jurisdiction during this outbreak. The ACHD and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) as well as the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA-DOH) are strongly urging citizens to remain calm and do not panic. They ask that you continue with basic hygiene standards and clean frequently touched surfaces. You can log onto the CDC or ACHD by the websites listed below.

If you are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 please stay at home and contact your Primary Care Physician (PCP) to determine whether or not you need to be tested. If you do not have a PCP contact the ACHD at (412)687-2243. If you are having a medical emergency please call 911.

We have collaborated with the North Braddock Fire Chief who has decided to suspend all medical responses until further notice. This decision was made being because the fire department does not have the appropriate personal protective equipment to protect themselves from COVID-19. They will respond to all calls when fire department services are needed. The police Chief as well has halted medical responses depending on the whether there is a need for law enforcement or not. With this being said, Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is following protocols for responses set forth by the PA-DOH.

I strongly urge our residents to do there due diligence in when calling 911 for Police, Fire, and EMS. Please only call if you are having an emergency. Let's work together and do our best to keep North Braddock healthy and safe.

https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment

https://www.cdc.gov/

http://www.health.pa.gov/

Sincerely,

Robert J. Monroe, Emergency Management Coordinator

Brian A. Kelly, Deputy Coordinator

Follow North Braddock Emergency Management on Facebook for updates!

https://www.facebook.com/North-Braddock-Emergency-Management-102193704755053/



POLICE MERGER STUDY

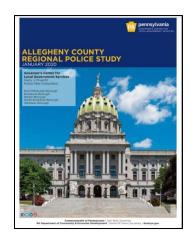
The PADCED published the Allegheny County Regional Police Study in January 2020 to explore the feasibility of creating a consolidated police department to service the municipalities of Braddock, East Pittsburgh, North Braddock, Rankin, & Whitaker. A few main points are highlighted in this summary.

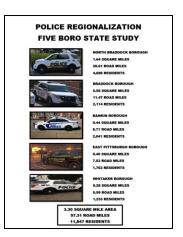
The five municipalities have a total population of 11,847 residents within a 3.30 square mile area. There are 57.31 miles of local and state roads contained within the five municipalities.

The budget is based upon a Chief of Police, and 11 full-time officers. The financial plan calls for an outlay of \$1,534,984 in the first full year of operation.

It generally takes the equivalent of five full-time officers to provide a minimum 24-hour police service, 7 days a week. The manpower suggested for patrol officers, using the IACP formula, indicate that there is a need for 11 full-time patrol officers for the area covered.

Three charts were drafted distributing costs in different ways. Regrettably, every option shows one community experiencing increased costs. Chart 6 shows significant cost increase to East Pittsburgh. Chart 7 & 8 show North Braddock will have minor increases in costs. Since North Braddock is the community that is recommended to house the police facility, an opportunity arises for additional scrutiny of these costs and distribution among the other four communities to affect a reduction in costs for North Braddock. The NBPD has the available space to house the regional department.





READ THE POLICE STUDY

FEMA FUNDS NEW FIRE ENGINE

North Braddock VFD announced in September 2019 that they were awarded a FEMA grant for a new engine/rescue vehicle. The grant totaled \$464,277 for the vehicle acquisition. Plans are to replace a 1988 GMC E-One Engine/Rescue with the new addition to the fleet. The truck design was ordered at the manufacturer with expected arrival in September/October 2020.



BORO BUDGET APPROVED



North Braddock's borough budget was passed with no tax increase for 2020. The budget totaled \$3,236,200 with the tax rate remaining at 11 mills. Trash collection remained \$120 a year for property owners.

https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/budget.html

STEAKHOUSE COMING SOON

Asti's Italian Steakhouse plans to be a new casual full-service Italian restaurant and banquet facility overlooking the Monongahela River in the North Braddock community. Asti's will open at the former Restaurant at the Grand View Golf Club. The grand opening was planned for March 20, 2020, but the opening is postponed during the pandemic. Check the restaurant out on Facebook and on the new website.

https://www.facebook.com/astiitaliansteakhouse/ https://www.astiitaliansteakhouse.com/









LOCAL TOURISM

Braddock's Battlefield History Center is closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. Follow the Facebook page for updates. https://www.facebook.com/HistoryCenter1755/

Grand View Club was ordered to close during the pandemic since it is a non-life-sustaining business.

Vincent's Pizza Park remains open for take-out orders as well as other life-sustaining businesses in the area.

Residents can still enjoy the outdoors for exercise. Six feet social distancing is encouraged by health experts.



FISH FRY SHUTDOWN



NBVFD made a tough decision to cancel the popular Lenten Fish Fry during the COVID-19 pandemic. The decision ensures the safety of volunteers and customers. The popular fundraiser was canceled as of March 19, 2020. The department thanked the loyal customers while having to end the largest profiting fundraiser for the organization. An announcement will be made if the event is able to reopen this year.

https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/fish-fry.html

WOODLAND HILLS NEWS

SCHOOLS CLOSED

Woodland Hills schools will remain closed at least until April 10, 2020. Schools may be ordered to remain closed for a longer duration if it is deemed necessary during the COVID-19 pandemic.

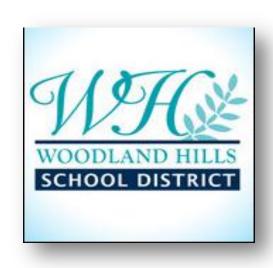
COURSE WORK ORDERED TO STOP

The State Department of Education ordered all school districts to not introduce new curriculum during the pandemic closure. Schools are not to grade any school work. Any work completed at home is optional.

GRAB & GO MEALS

Students may receive Grab & Go Breakfast and Lunch Monday through Friday from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at locations that includes the District Administration Building at 531 Jones Avenue in North Braddock Meals will be distributed to students at the side entrance located next to the parking lot. Students will receive one lunch and one breakfast at the same time. Students will receive additional meals for the weekend on Fridays.

https://www.whsd.net/News/grabandgomarch2020#sthash.aAflld DJ.dpbs



https://www.whsd.net/

SERVING THE PEOPLE

Bridge City Church on Wolfe Avenue will continue to operate the Food Bank on the third Saturday of each month. The recent food bank served 69 bags of food on March 21st from 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the rear of the church building. Anyone in need of food items is welcomed at the facility. If you are in need of assistance, contact the church office at 412.824.1616 or email Frank Camarda at: frank@bridgecitypgh.com

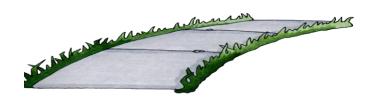
https://www.bridgecitypgh.com/food-distribution-info



PEDESTRIAN PROJECT



State leaders announced in November 2019 that the Hawkins Avenue Pedestrian Sidewalk Project is slated to receive \$163,550. Funding was approved through the Commonwealth Financing Authority through its Multimodal Transportation Fund. Hawkins Avenue is the main thoroughfare regularly used by pedestrians and public transit in Ward 3.



YOUTH BASEBALL REGISTRATION



Braddock/North Braddock Little League holds spring sign-ups for T-Ball & Little League Baseball every spring for ages 5-12. The home field is in North Braddock at the former Scott High Stadium. Registration is scheduled until April 30, 2020. Contact league leaders with any questions during the current pandemic.

https://www.facebook.com/northbraddocklittleleague/



NEW COUNCIL TERMS

New council terms began in January 2020. There was a reorganization meeting held with John Vahosky appointed as Council President & Mike Dobrinich as Vice-President. Mike Dobrinich, John Vahosky, Mike Breaston, & Lisa Franklin were sworn in for new four-year council terms.

Council member Lena Dixon passed away on September 28, 2019. Thoughts & prayers are with her family & friends. Lena stepped up to be appointed when there was a council vacancy. Ms. Franklin was appointed to Lena's vacated seat and then won the election in 2019.

Kathy Evanchec won the 2019 election for tax collector to finish the vacated term until the end of 2021. We wish Diane Tomasic a very happy retirement after serving as tax collector for many years.



Magistrate Scott Schricker swears in new council member Lisa Franklin for her first council term in Ward 3.

STATE REP ELECTION

The upcoming State Representative race in the 34th District features two Democratic candidates known in the North Braddock community. First term incumbent Summer Lee grew up in the community and is seeking re-election for her second 2-year term. She will face challenger Chris Roland, a lifelong resident and 3-term borough council member. Both are battling for the Democrat nomination with no registered Republicans being announced. The primary election is likely being pushed back to June 2, 2020 due to the pandemic. Voters can vote by mail for the first time in Pennsylvania with no absentee excuse required. Request a mail-in ballot at https://www.votespa.com.





NORTH BRADDOCK ORDINANCE #1022

TRASH CONTAINERS SHALL NOT BE PLACED BY THE OWNER OR CUSTOMER AT THE COLLECTION POINT SPECIFIED BY THE MUNICIPALITY OR ITS DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE BEFORE 7:00 PM ON THE DAY PROCEEDING A CUSTOMER'S PICK-UP DAY AND THE CONTAINERS SHALL BE RETURNED TO THE STORAGE AREA ON THE CUSTOMER'S PREMISES BY 7:00 PM ON THE CUSTOMER'S PICK-UP DAY.



TRASH CANS TO BE REMOVED FROM THE STREET, CURB, & SIDEWALK OR BE WARNED & CITED

COMMON BOROUGH ORDINANCES

NORTH BRADDOCK ORDINANCE #912

ALL DUAL WHEELED VEHICLES,
TRACTORS, TRAILERS, HOME TRAILERS,
AND CAMPERS ARE PROHIBITED TO PARK
ON THE STREETS OF NORTH BRADDOCK



VEHICLES TO BE REMOVED BY OWNER OR BE TAGGED & TOWED BY POLICE





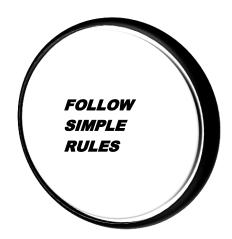
NORTH BRADDOCK ORDINANCE #1083

PROPERTY OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ORDERING A DUMPSTER OR SCHEDULING TO HAUL AWAY MATERIALS WHEN HAVING A PROPERTY WITH BULK WASTE. REFER TO THE ORDINANCE FOR THE DESCRIPTION OF BULK WASTE.





BULK WASTE MUST
BE PLACED IN A
DUMPSTER OR
HAULED AWAY OR BE
WARNED & CITED



NORTH BRADDOCK ORDINANCE #1048

THE BOROUGH IS AUTHORIZED TO REGULATE, RESTRAIN, OR PROHIBIT ABANDONED ILLEGAL VEHICLES ON PUBLIC & PRIVATE PROPERTY. IT APPLIES TO VEHICLES THAT HAVE EXPIRED INSPECTION & REGISTRATION PLATES.



TAGGED VEHICLES HAVE (5)
DAYS TO BE REMOVED OR
BROUGHT INTO LEGAL
COMPLIANCE OR BE TOWED





NORTH BRADDOCK ZONING ORDINANCE

AGRICULTURE ACTIVITY

BOROUGH ZONING CODES SET GUIDELINES FOR AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY THAT INCLUDES SET RULES FOR OWNING FARM ANIMALS. ROOSTERS ARE PROHIBITED BY ZONING. THE URBAN AGRICULTURAL ZONING DISTRICT IS LOCATED FROM 13TH STREET TOWARDS EAST PITTSBURGH ON BELL AVENUE.



ZONING RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED OR BE WARNED & CITED. ZONING APPEALS CAN REQUEST A HEARING.

FRACKING PETITION



SECURE.FOODANDWATERWATCH.ORG NO Permit for Merrion Oil and Gas!

North Braddock Residents For our Future continue to organize against proposed gas drilling at the Edgar Thomson Steel Works. Monthly meetings are held at the Braddock Carnegie Library.

East Pittsburgh council voted to update their ordinance in regards to gas drilling activity at the advice of advocates from the Food & Water Watch. They also revoked the permit after two years of inactivity by Merrion Oil & Gas. Permits for the project are still under review by the DEP. Residents can sign the online petition to support the actions by East Pittsburgh Council.

Sign Petition Here

BUSINESS OF THE MONTH

PRIORITY ONE EMS

575 Baldridge Avenue
North Braddock, PA 15104
Emergencies - 911
Non-Emergency - 412.271.2171
http://www.priority1ems.com/
EMS Facebook Page



Priority One EMS is one of the first responder agencies that are on the frontlines to treat patients during these uncertain times with a global pandemic. Employees continue to serve the residents of Braddock, East Pittsburgh, North Braddock, & Rankin. The Priority One ambulance division is responsible for providing 24/7 emergency response to the residents of the four communities. Ambulances are staffed with ALS & BLS crews consisting of EMT's & Paramedics. Priority One is privately owned and not registered as an independent 501(c) (3) like some nearby EMS agencies. Therefore they don't hold fundraisers, subscription drives, or solicit donations.

Remember to only call for an ambulance for immediate emergencies. If you are able to find a private ride to a hospital for a minor illness, please do so. This allows ambulances to be available for urgent emergencies.

We also thank our other first responders that serve community residents. This includes the North Braddock Police Department, North Braddock Fire Department, and mutual aid neighboring agencies providing police, fire, & ems services during these crucial times.





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 chiefisaac@northbraddockborough.com

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

EMS Chief – Priority One EMS (412) 271-2171

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

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

Tax Collector – Kathy Evanchec (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 (412) 271-4165

Woodland Hills School District (412) 731-1300

Big's Trash Collection (724) 379-4331

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

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

Wilkinsburg Penn Joint Water (412) 243-6200

Emergencies Police, Fire, Ambulance 9-1-1

UPCOMING COMMUNTY EVENTS

Council Meetings

Third Tuesday of every month unless noted.

Work Session - 6:30 PM, Council Meeting - 7:00 PM
600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building
https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/meetings--community-service.html

NBVFD Fish Frv

Canceled until further notice due to the pandemic. https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/fish-fry.html

NB Cares Monthly Meetings

Last Monday of Each Month, 6:30 PM 600 Anderson Street, Municipal Building https://www.facebook.com/North-Braddock-Cares-Inc-111488438928227/

NB Residents for Our Future Meetings

Monthly meetings announced on Facebook.
419 Library Street, Braddock Carnegie Library
https://www.facebook.com/northbraddockresidentsforourfuture/

NB Garden Club Meetings

Seasonal meetings announced on Facebook.

1318 Wolfe Avenue, Fire Station #1

https://www.facebook.com/NorthBraddockGardenClub/

Woodland Hills School District Meetings

Agenda meetings held the 2nd Wednesday every month. Legislative meetings held the 3rd Wednesday every month. 531 Jones Avenue, Administration Building, 7:00 PM https://www.whsd.net/docs/district/Board/2020%20Board%20Meeting%20Dates.pdf

New Police Email

The acting police chief has a new email. chiefisaac@northbraddockborough.com

Email suggestions for future articles and let us know if you would like to contribute to the publication.

nbfacebook1@gmail.com.

Check out newsletter editions & subscribe.

https://northbraddocknetwork.weebly.com/newsletter.html

