

Carrolltown Borough

Newsletter

140 E. Carroll St PO Box 307 Carrolltown, PA 814.344.6650 www.carrolltown.pa.us

March 2025

Due to overwhelming amount of "disposable" wipes found in our sewage plant that is causing an abundance of issues, we felt it necessary to repeat our article on handi-wipes and the like, from our article written in the March 2017 newletter with a few added changes.

The Municipal Authority is Requesting Assistance in Cost Prevention by Throwing ALL FORMS of Wipes in The Trash

All forms of handi-wipes used are treated as disposable and flushable! This is the claim for many forms of these cleaning towelettes that are used in most households, as well as commercial businesses. Another claim is that some forms of disposable wipes are flushable when in fact wipes that claim they are flushable are not. All forms of wipes are not flushable even if their packaging states they are. They include polish cleaners, make-up removers, baby wipes and floor dusters, to name just a few. In truth, the public should be educated and aware that these wipes do not dissolve and are a continuous cause of laborious and equipment malfunctions and failure in our sewage system. The Municipal Authority is making a plea to all residents to assist in the efforts of discarding these wipes appropriately by not flushing them into the sewage system but instead, putting them in the trash and have them hauled away by our solid waste disposal contractor. The sewage systems were not designed to deal with or be able to accommodate these cleaning towels which have led to several breakdowns, overflows and backed up sewage mains which is costly to fix, repair and maintain. Handi-wipes are an expensive burden to the waste treatment facilities across the nation and most importantly, OURS!

Staff Changes at the Borough!

The year 2025 is experiencing big changes in the Borough Staff.

Although Kara Kollar resigned last September from the Street department, we are blessed this hard worker stayed on as our Wastewater and Water Treatment Plant operator. Kara is currently training Michelle (Micki) Farabaugh who has joined the Authority as a Water and Sewage operator in training this past October. Micki is eager to learn all she can and is looking forward to the opportunities with CBMA.

Joseph Wentz (Joe) has rejoined our team after Kara's departure from the street department. Another hard worker, Joe has over 25 years' experience in road paving and over five years experience as a municipal worker. Joe also possesses mechanical abilities and excellent skills in carpentry.

Lonnie Batdorf, who has been with the Borough for twenty-one years, with sixteen of those as the Borough and Authority manager has resigned as well to take on a new venture elsewhere. Over the years we have seen Lonnie take leadership in overseeing many community projects as well as play a crucial part in the funds received from the CPV Company who headed up our Traffic Light Project. Lonnie takes with him, years of municipal experience along with an abundance of knowledge and understanding of the systems but we all wish him well and great success in his new venture. He will stay on as our Licensed Water Operator.

Lastly, Berni known affectionately as Miss Bee or just Bee to her co-workers stated last year she would be retiring in 2025. Berni made it official by announcing she would retire July 4th this year. Berni has been with the borough over twelve years and has sustained the finances and operations of the Borough/Authority while working together with Council, the Authority Board and Management to assist in Borough and Authority matters. Berni's nurturing spirit and work ethic will be missed but we wish "Miss Bee" a restful and enjoyable retirement. Bee will continue her Part-time position as a licensed water operator and in the Borough to help transition Chad and Sam in their new job positions.

Until her retirement, Berni is currently the Interim Borough/Authority Manager and Chad Onkst, the present Street Department's Foreman will be assuming the role of Manager starting July 5th. Chad has been with us for over five years and brings a plumbing background along with many years of experience in the operations of heavy equipment and other great mechanical skills. Chad also possesses a very good knowledge of the community and its distribution structure as well as the water and wastewater systems.

Samuel (Sam) Sottile will be replacing Bee in the Secretary/Treasurer role. Sam is a college graduate who brings a variety of office knowledge and experience to the workplace as well as computer technology skills. Coupled with a great attitude and community spirit, Sam will make a great addition to the Borough "family."

Although Berni adds there is much to learn, she is proud of both Sam and Chad and assures they will be great in their roles and are working hard to learn all they can. She said they are also surrounded by a great network of people who will help equip them with what they need and guide their way to success while they serve the best interests of the community.

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

LUKE BAKER, COUNCIL PRESIDENT

MIKE PLATT, COUNCIL VICE PRESIDENT

STEVE DECKARD

DAVE HORN

JOSEPH KORDISH

DARLENE LUTCH

TIMOTHY SPANGLER

JAMES ERTTER, MAYOR

BERNI JULICK, INTERIM MANAGER

BERNI JULICK, CURRENT BOROUGH SEC/TREASURER

CHAD ONKST, MANAGER-IN-TRAINING

SAMUEL SOTTILE, BOROUGH SEC/TREAS-IN-

TRAINING

JEFF MCEVOY, CHIEF OF POLICE

MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD

MIKE WAKSMUNSKI, CHAIRMAN

MIKE RYAN, VICE CHAIRMAN

LARRY CICERO, SEC/TREASURER

TIMOTHY SPANGLER

MARTIN WESTRICK

STAFF

TRESSA LEFFERTS, BOROUGH CLERK

CHAD ONKST ROAD FOREMAN

JOSEPH WENTZ

FULL-TIME STREET/CBMA CREW

KARA KOLLAR-
WATER/WASTEWATER OPERATOR

MICHELLE FARABAUGH-
WATER/WASTEWATER OPER IN TRAINING



Community Development

Managers Review--- This past year...

The Borough Rt 219 CPV Project regarding the Traffic Light was completed as planned with several delays due to PennDOT. The Community Benefit Agreement between the Borough and the Municipal Authority were provided significant funding from CPV to assist the Carrolltown community with Borough upgrades and equipment. In addition to the funding, CPV provided free to the Borough, sidewalks, safe parallel parking at the American Legion and on East Carroll Street, safe relocation of hydrants, and transference of our water mains that ran across the roadway. Moreover, trees will also be planted to complete the street scape. This upcoming year will see several purchases requested through the CBA Agreement for the betterment of the community. We are grateful to have received this funding and to Lonnie Batdorf for his part and all his efforts in making this happen.

Flooding Issues. In September, Darlene had conversations with representatives regarding the flooding that occurred on August 9th in the Borough. She collected all the civil awareness forms from the residents who attended the September council meeting to express their frustration with the situation. She mailed the civil awareness forms that outlined the residents' flooding issues along with a written letter to Senator Langerholc, who involved the DEP. She stated that their office was very forthcoming in getting her the information she needed to arm the Borough with information necessary to hopefully assist the residents. Council members, Darlene Lutch and Tim Spangler along with Lonnie Batdorf and Berni Julick attended several meetings starting in December with the DEP regarding the affected flood areas. Although the DEP did not produce any solutions at the December meeting, they directed the Borough towards the Wetlands and Waterways Division. The appointment with that division proved to be more discouraging. Although there were feasible outcomes brought up, it appeared that there would be considerable costs associated with these potential solutions. A meeting with the residents affected by the flooding was scheduled in March to update them about what was discussed with the DEP as well as the current status in regards to their properties but it was postponed and a new date was set up and is to be held on April 15th at 10:00 am in the Borough Building. In an effort to keep the public informed on workable answers for the consistent flooding especially during hard rains, communication with the Senator's office will continue as well as meetings with the DEP until some resolve can be met and possible funding can be attained.

Borough Building Repairs. Extensive work was done to the Borough Building this year after it was determined that rust inside the wall expanded, moving the brick and subsequently cracking the mortar and opening the face of the building allowing rain to enter and the cause of all the damage. This was a costly repair that was shared with the Authority, and the Borough's infrastructure among other funds.

Grants. As you know the Borough has received grants in the past for police vehicles, the park's current mowers, a crack sealer (shared with other municipalities), among others. However, although letters of support were received by Representative Dallas Kephart's office to accompany the grant applications applied for by our engineers for our streets, and other community projects for the past two years, none of the grants were awarded to the Borough. Each year, the Borough applies for grants and will continue to apply to attain funding for much needed projects.

On Street Parking remains an issue in the Borough and has caused a split in opinion between those who feel on street parking is unsafe and hazardous and those who feel on street parking is a must especially for those who do not have driveways or a place to park. As the Council works diligently to find a way to resolve this problem, many options are being investigated, and past records are being revisited to allow the best informed decision to be made in this matter.

The Carrolltown Borough and Municipal Authority looks forward to the future and is grateful for your cooperation as we wish success and good health to you all in 2025.

MISS BEE (Berni) ON HER RETIREMENT

I have to admit, this has been a very difficult decision because truly the last twelve years at the borough has not only been a very rewarding experience, but it has been who I am. As I reflect on the time spent here, I am filled with appreciation for the support and camaraderie I've shared with so many lives here. Thank you my coworkers, both past and present, for making my employment here so memorable. It is really going to be hard to let go. You all truly have been my second family and the Borough and Municipal Authority has been my "baby." To the current team of Tress, Rose, Kara, Chad, Joe, Sam and Mac, I leave you with the laughter you had on so many occasions given me, the humor that got us through our days, and the attitude of "if God be for us, who can be against us?" We laughed until we cried in happy times, we comforted each other during difficult times and most of all, we vented to each other in frustrating and hard times. Ill not forget our blueberry pancake breakfasts and birthday lunches! The depth of my love and gratitude for you all is unmeasured. I will not forget how blessed I was to work among the best!!! To Management, Council and the Authority Board, I learned so very much, and will continue to take all that knowledge and experience with me to the end. You are all intelligent, knowledgeable and community-focused people and I am honored to have worked with you all. I will also not forget the smiles of the residents that lit up our office with their presence and graced us with so many captivating stories. Ill not forget to look back at you all one last time and smile and remember everything I learned, everything I gained and most of all everything I'll truly miss but love just the same. There are oh so many things I look forward to doing, especially more hugs, playing, and stargazing with my granddaughters, and to just lay under the sky with me, as when I was once that barefoot little girl resting in the grass, without a care in the world, smiling at the whisper of the wind, the softness of a cloud and the gaze of the moon, but with the joy of knowing my friends at the Borough are seeing the same sky and smiling too. Please know how wonderful you are all and how I enjoyed working with so many beautiful people over the years and the heart for this place that I hold so dear, the heart of who Carrolltown is, YOU!....God bless! ❤️ Love "Miss B"

LIBRARY INFORMATION CENTER

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday – Thursday: 9:00 AM -6:30 PM
Saturday: 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM
(Summer Sat 8:00 am to 12:00 PM)

LIBRARY SERVICES

- Books, DVD's, Audiobooks, Magazines
- E-books & E-Audiobooks
- Photocopies and faxes
- Computer access, WIFI & Printing
- Digital Resources:
 - Power Library, My Heritage ABC Mouse, America's News, Transparent Language Online and more!

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

- Open to all ages and Abilities
- **Story Times-Call for Details**
- **Children's Summer Program**
Please Register in May at the Library
- **Check out STEM kits, Robotic Toys, and Board Games**

ADULT PROGRAMS

- Book club
- Variety of Crafting and Classes
- Informational Programs

MUSIC IN THE PARK-CARROLLTOWN LEGION PARK

Every Wednesday from July 9th to August 13, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM
(Rain date: August 20th)

- A new Basket Auction each week to support the library
- Concession stand will be open
- 2025 Musicians:
 - July 9: 2nd Street Acoustics
 - July 16: Jamie & Lee
 - July 23: The Flyin' Umbrellas
 - July 30: PT Cruisers
 - Aug. 6: Tony & Stacy
 - Aug. 13: Bruce Schettig
 - Aug. 20: RAIN DATE

Member of the Cambria County Library System
140 E. Carroll Street, PO Box 316 Carrolltown PA 15722
carrolltown@ccsls.org
814-344-6300 www.ccsls.org/carrolltown
Follow us on Facebook
@carrolltownpubliclibrary

Non-Emergency Issues and Leak Detection

Homeowners living within the Borough who hear and notice issues with water leakage, please contact the Borough office (during the day, Monday-Friday between 8-4pm) at 344-6650. Leak detection is done by the Borough crew during the day or night.

If there are leaks or any issues or events needing immediate attention on weekends or after hours, residents should call the Cambria County NON-EMERGENCY Number (814) 472-2100.

CARROLLTOWN POLICE REMINDERS

➤ **EMERGENCIES – CALL 911!**

- The Police would like to remind residents NOT TO BLOCK OR PARK ON THE SIDEWALKS. THIS IS NOT PERMITTED AT ANY TIME, including brick sidewalks.
- The police would also like to inform residents that the police will continue to enforce cross parking violations as well as other parking violations.
- If you come across any street lights that are out, call the office at 344-6400 with the closest street address and pole number.

If there is a non-emergency, residents should call the Carrolltown Police number 344-6400 or the Cambria County NON-EMERGENCY Number (814) 472-2100.

DEA National Prescription Drug and Vape Pens Take Back Day

Saturday, April 26th from 10:00am to 2:00pm.

The Carrolltown Police Department will be collecting unused or unwanted prescription medication and vape pens at the Carrolltown Police Department located at 132 East Carroll Street, Carrolltown, between 10:00am and 2:00pm on Saturday, April 26th. Anyone can drop off medication at the police department during those hours. Residents of Carrolltown Borough and West Carroll Township who are unable to take their medications to the collection site are asked to **turn on their porch lights during those hours**, and someone from Law Enforcement will pick it up for them.

The Police Department will also be **collecting vape pens or other e-cigarette** devices from individual consumers **only after the batteries are removed** from the devices. It is important to stress that the DEA is not responsible for removing the batteries from the devices. If the battery cannot be removed, individual consumers can check with large electronic chain stores who may accept the vape pen or e-cigarette devices for proper disposal. Individual consumers may also contact their local Hazardous Materials Management Facility to determine if they accept these devices, and for additional guidance regarding proper disposal.

SHOVELING SIDEWALKS

All sidewalks and any sidewalk areas leading to crosswalks are to be cleared of snow and ice during the winter season. Also, snow is prohibited from being discharged into the streets. Borough Snow Ordinance# 277 will be enforced by the Police Department.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Residents are reminded that state law requires you to contact PA ONE CALL by dialing 811, before digging by hand or machine to any depth or any digging done with heavy equipment such as a backhoe. ***Don't Risk having to pay for all damages to utilities by not making PA One Call notification.***



Property Maintenance

Please maintain your property and keep it up at all times. Any and all issues will be reported to the CCBCEA who will enforce all ordinances accordingly. Fines will be issued for any violation.

GRASS CLIPPINGS

The Carrolltown Borough Ordinances #215 and #216 states residents are responsible for sidewalks, etc, and prohibits residents from discharging grass or other debris on Borough sidewalks and/or streets. Fines will be issued by the Police Department for violations.

Building and Codes Agency

The Borough adopted the State mandated Building Codes contracting with Cambria County Building Code Enforcement Agency (CCBCEA) to issue building permits and perform inspections. All residents and businesses of the Borough are required to obtain a Building Permit from CCBCEA before proceeding with **any** construction. All construction also requires that a dumpster be obtained from Burgmeier's Hauling in accordance to Ordinance #224 to ensure proper disposal. CCBCEA is located in the borough building, 2nd floor, 140 East Carroll Street, Carrolltown, PA. You can obtain forms online at www.lmiagency.org or phone at (814) 471-

METER READING

Meter reading is done by the Borough employees around the **1st of each month**. Please see front article under Meter Replacement Update regarding the new smart Meter Technology system that will be incorporated into this process. It is now possible to digitally retrieve readings, but manual readings still may be needed at times and we ask that all pets be tied up or secured before doing so.

Clip & Retain for future reference

Trash collection will continue to be every Monday during 2025 with the exception of Memorial Day and Labor Day. Collection would then be completed on the Tuesday after the holiday. The other holidays observed are New Years Day, July 4th, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Please have your trash out by 5:00 AM curbside and 1 hour earlier on days after holidays. Collection of recycling materials will continue to be **EVERY MONDAY** of each month. Recycling bins (including those provided by the Borough) should be used or containers that offset the regular trash. **NO PLASTIC BAGS FOR RECYCLING should be used!** Contact the Borough Office for a list of allowable recyclable materials and information on how to prepare the materials for pickup.

NOTE: THE BOROUGH WILL BE PASSING OUT NEW GARBAGE CANS AND THEY STILL HAVE FREE RECYCLING BINS FOR RESIDENTS

Tree Limb Pick Ups – Call office to schedule (must be 3" or less in diameter, bundled w/twine and measurement of 5' long x 2'wide x 2'deep). This service will be available during the months of April, May, June; also September, October & November.

April 19th @ 12:00 PM Easter Egg Hunt - American Legion Park – April 19th @ 12:00 PM

April 29th & 30th – Street Sweeping (Weather Permitting)

July 25th, 26th, and 27th - St Benedict Church Festival

August 10th – Annual Carrolltown Fire Co. Turkey Dinner/Basket Auction

August 15th-17th Park-Summer Fest

August 31st – Park Cash Bonanza

September - Water Line Flushing at Night

October 26th - Halloween on the Hill – American Legion Park

October 26th – Trick or Treat (2:00-4:00) Tentative Parade (4:00 PM)

December 13th – 12 Days of Christmas

Carrolltown Borough
PO Box 307
Carrolltown, PA. 15722

First Class Mail
US Postage
PAID
Carrolltown, PA
15722
Permit # 1

**IMPORTANT MESSAGES
FOR THE RESIDENTS OF
CARROLLTOWN**

2025 Important Dates

ALL FUNCTIONS AND SERVICES ARE TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED

- **Tree Limb Pick-Up**

Call the office to schedule tree limb/brush pick up. Limbs must be no larger than 3" in diameter and brush **must be bundled with twine, no longer than 5ft. long x 2ft. wide x 2ft deep.** Please have limbs and brush (limited to a small pickup truck load) at curbside for pickup by 7:00 AM. Truck will not make a second trip. ***This service will only be available during the months of April, May, June, September, October and November.***

- **Easter Egg Hunt – April 19th at 12:00 PM**

Park and Rec. -Easter Egg Hunt at the Carrolltown American Legion Park.

- **April 29th & 30th - Street Sweeping - (Weather permitting)**

Street sweeping will be done by one truck. Main Street sweeping to start approximately 4:00-5:00 am, residents should close windows even though all attempts will be made to keep the dust at a minimum. **All vehicles must be removed from Borough streets the day before prior to 8:00 PM.** For further information on these dates, please contact the Borough office.

- **July 25TH, 26TH, & 27TH - Church Festival**

Annual St Benedict Church Festival

- **August 10th - Firemen's Turkey Dinner/Basket Auction**

Annual Carrolltown Fire Company Turkey Dinner/Basket Auction

- **August 15th – 17th - Park - Summerfest**

- **August 31st - Park Cash Bonanza**

- **September - Tentative Water Line Flushing**

Borough Authority water main line flushing. This activity will start around 9pm and residents should not try to use large amounts of water at their house during these times. We suggest you don't wash clothes during flushing and run your water for a while after the flushing has been completed.

- **October 26th Sunday Trick or Treat**

Trick or Treat: Tentative Parade

- **December 13th, 12 Days of Christmas**