



# Mayor's Newsletter

Borough of Sharon Hill • Delaware County • Pennsylvania 19079

Borough Hall 610-586-8200

[www.sharonhillboro.com](http://www.sharonhillboro.com) • [www.facebook.com/BoroughofSharonHill](https://www.facebook.com/BoroughofSharonHill)

Borough TV Stations – RCN Channel 5, Verizon Channel 42 and Comcast Channel 10 **January 2019**



As we enter a new year, I think that it is important to reflect on our past and determine how we can improve going forward. The greatest investment we can make is an investment in ourselves. All too often however, we are so caught up in what we are currently doing that we rarely sit back, analyze where we are and what we have done, and make a decision about where we would like to go next. I am also pretty sure that we don't spend any time writing down powerful promises to ourselves. Spending time doing this at least one day per year can make a difference in our lives. I know that it has for me. I begin with a message of self-improvement, so as to hopefully encourage thoughtful reflection. I believe that as we elevate ourselves, we become stronger and better spouses, parents, friends and neighbors.

That said, I hope that everyone enjoyed the holidays, spending time with family and friends. I also hope that you took the time to share with those of us that are less fortunate. Again this year through the kindness and altruism of Dr. Howell Strauss, and various businesses we were able to help 35 families with a nice turkey dinner and all of the fixings at Thanksgiving. Subsequent to his

Thanksgiving generosity, the doctor provided funding to ensure that some of our underprivileged children received presents at Christmas.

I would like to take a moment to thank our office staff and highway department for their work throughout the past year. As always, our police and volunteer fire fighters continue to keep us safe and we appreciate their efforts and achievements. Mentioning our police department brings to mind an unpleasant topic, but one requiring discussion. Drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania have increased over 60 percent in two years according to the Drug Enforcement Administration. The Philadelphia division of the federal agency reported in late August that overdoses attributed to drugs accounted for 5,456 deaths in the commonwealth, up from 4,600 deaths in 2016 and 3,500 in 2015. The number of deaths has increased 64 percent in that timeframe, boosting the death rate per 100,000 persons from 26.7 to 42 says the DEA.

*continued on page 3*



**ToniAnne Martinez (Toni)**  
**Tax Collector**

Sharon Hill Borough • P.O. 1032  
Sharon Hill, PA 19079 • Phone 610-583-7616  
Email: [tonianne328@hotmail.com](mailto:tonianne328@hotmail.com)

**Tax Collector**

**Office Hours**

March 1-31, 2019 • May 1-31, 2019

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

5:00PM - 7:00PM

**HOURS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**

Phone: 610-583-7616

Email: [tonianne328@hotmail.com](mailto:tonianne328@hotmail.com)

Please send email request  
if you require an appointment

**OVERNIGHT PARCEL ADDRESS:**  
ToniAnne Martinez, Tax Collector  
250 Sharon Ave. Sharon Hill, PA 19079

## Committies/Board Liasons

President	Terrence Olver	Finance Committee
Vice President	LaTina Bedford Dean	Personnel
Councilperson	Sharon Booker	Sharon Hill Art and Culture
Councilperson	William Felder	Highway / Sanitation Code / Zoning
Councilperson	Michael Finnegan	Library
Councilperson	Hykeem Green	Recreation / Parks / Fields
Councilperson	Keith Martinez	Police and Fire



### Recreation Board

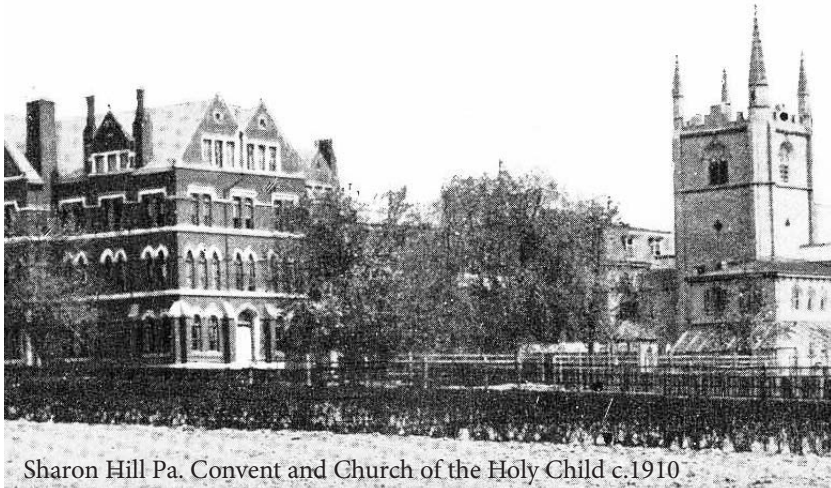
Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 8:00pm as needed

### Library Board

Meets the first Monday of the month at 7:00pm

### Sharon Hill Arts and Culture

Meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm



Sharon Hill Pa. Convent and Church of the Holy Child c.1910



## Council Meetings

Council meetings are the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7pm.

Thursday	January	10	2019
Thursday	February	14	2019
Thursday	March	14	2019
Thursday	April	11	2019
Thursday	May	9	2019
Thursday	June	13	2019
Thursday	July	11	2019
Thursday	August	8	2019
Thursday	September	12	2019
Thursday	October	10	2019
Thursday	November	14	2019
Thursday	December	12	2019



Street light outages/Water main breaks call 610-586-8200 x 4. Please leave a message with your name, Address, phone number and Pole number.

Water main breaks

**Call 911**

# Police Department

## WINTER NEWSLETTER - 2019



The department would strongly urge everyone to please lock your vehicle at all times, but especially in the overnight hours. Also, please remove all valuables whenever possible. If they must be left in the car, place them in a secure and out of sight area, such as the trunk. Too many people are experiencing thefts simply because they do not lock their cars.

We are asking for the resident's assistance to be the eyes and ears of the department. Should you observe a crime occurring, something suspicious, or a problem, please call 911 immediately. Also please remember 911 is for emergency and non-emergency use.

The members of the department would like to wish everyone happy holidays.

*Chief Richard Herron, Jr.*

## Mayor's Letter, continued

Pennsylvania's drug death rate continues to trend higher than the national average of 19.8 as reported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in late 2017. Fentanyl was reported to be found in two-thirds of all drug-related overdose deaths in Pennsylvania last year, the DEA reporting a 400 percent rise in fentanyl-related substances in overdose deaths since 2015. Seventeen distinct fentanyl-related substances were detected in overdose deaths last year. The opioid epidemic continues to be a major concern. Know what prescription drugs are available to your children in your medicine cabinet. Most importantly, know where your children congregate and with whom.

There are a few infrastructure related matters to report. The sewer relining project continues, with approximately 78% of the community sewers complete. PECO's contractor, The Miller Co. continues to replace gas lines within the community. Subsequent to the gas line work, the serviced streets are then resurfaced. Resurfacing should be complete by the end of January. Again, our community has a balanced budget for 2019.

A nominal tax increase of approximately \$19.73 per household was required to attain the balanced budget. That said, I commend our Borough Council for making prudent decisions to continuously maintain and upgrade the community infrastructure.

Commit to make this year your best year yet, a year that will bring you closer to achieving your personal and professional goals. Wishing you, your families and loved ones the greatest 2019 and beyond.

*Mayor Harry Dunfee*



## Art and Culture Commission

Sharon Hill Art and Culture Commission is in its fourth year of providing a variety of art and cultural programs such as:

Cultural Forums	Line Dancing
Film Night	Yoga
Jazz and Art in the Park	Doll Making
Vision Board Workshop	Jazz Pilates
Dancercise	Make and Takes
Friday Paint Night	Zumba

The goal of SHACC is to continue to offer programs that culturally enrich the lives of Sharon Hill residents free of charge. If you can think of or would like to suggest any art or cultural activities that you would like SHACC to provide, please let us know.

The SHACC Board meets every 1st Wednesday of the month. Listed below are activities for the 1st Quarter of 2019

- January** Dancercise -Saturday Dates TBD  
Vision Board Friday -7pm -10pm Date TBD  
Mid-Week Jazz Pilates Wednesday's 7pm -8pm  
Henna Party
- February** Black History Month  
Midweek African American Film Fest -Wednesday  
Evening 7pm -8:30pm  
Dancercise -continues  
Mid-Week Jazz Pilates continues  
Zumba -Saturday Dates TBD  
Sharon Hill Paint Night -TBD
- March** Spring Make and Take Date TBD  
Zumba. continues  
Sharon Hill Mini Health Fair -Date TBD  
Line Dancing -Date TBD

SHACC program information can be found on the Public Access Television Station, Sharon Hill Borough Hall and Library Bulletin Board, on line at SHACC or Concerned Citizens of Sharon Hill Facebook Pages and Next Door, as well as on the Memorial Park Electronic Sign.

# Recreation Department

"Although no one can go back and make a brand new start, anyone can start from now and make a brand new ending." *Carl Bard*

## What's New?

Keep informed on upcoming events on Nextdoor Sharon Hill, to become a member join:

<https://nextdoor.com/invite/stzyzhuksjysaqhfedvc>

## What to look forward to?

**Easter Egg Hunt**, Peter Cottontail will be onsite for pictures-Bring your camera.

**Date:** April 13, 2019

**Time:** 12:00 PM

**Location:** Memorial Park, Chester Pike & Clifton Ave.

\*The Egg Hunt will depend on weather, conditions may require we ONLY hand out candy bags and take pictures. In addition, location may change if the weather is inclement.

## Looking back on 2018

### Easter Egg Hunt:

The Easter Egg Hunt at Memorial Park was a success, providing candy and prizes to all and taking beautiful pictures of families with the Easter Bunny.

### Sharon Hill Beautification Program:

May 4th, The Recreation Board collaborated with Home Depot (Ridley Park Location) providing hanging baskets, vegetables, shrubs, soil and mulch to Sharon Hill residents.

### Trunk or Treat:

October 31th, Our 3rd year of Trunk or Treat was more amazing than last year, with the addition of the Haunted Library, which featured visits from IT and Zombies. Our local businesses and residents provided goodies to all and participated in a car-decorating contest.

### Sr. Luncheon:

Heritage Ballrooms from 1-5PM

The event is for **CURRENT SHARON HILL RESIDENTS**, 55 years or older. Providing Buffet lunch, open bar, music and door prizes.

**SAVE THE DATE:** December 14th, the second saturday of the month, 2019 for next year's event. Look for more details in your October 2019 newsletter.

## Tree Lighting:

The First saturday of month, Our Annual Tree Lighting Reception was held at Borough hall, as Santa arrived on his Fire Truck with a Police escort we counted down from 10 as the 30ft Spruce Tree and the Borough Building were lit up. We enjoyed delicious hor d'oeuvres and desserts, played games, and danced. Adults received a gift for their continued support of the Recreation Board activities. Our Singing and dancing Santa took pictures with residents.

## Brunch with Santa and Friends:

Santa and Frosty joined the Recreation Board and Residents for Brunch, crafts, pictures and dancing. Thank you to all the volunteers who make this event a success.



To stay up to date for our programs, activities and events connect with us via our social networking sites: Nextdoor Sharon Hill and The Borough of Sharon Hill Facebook page. Stay tuned for updates on monthly meetings.

Alternatively, watch the Sharon Hill TV station channel or call Borough Hall (610) 586-8200.

*Happy New Year!*

*Wishing you a Season filled with Love, Joy, and Inspiration for Peace in the World.*

## Dates for Recreation Event

- April 13, 2019- Easter Egg Hunt -12:00PM (Memorial Park)
- October 31, 2019- Trunk or Treat -6:30PM (Sharon Hill Public Library)
- December 7, 2019- Tree Lighting Brunch with Santa & Frosty 11:00AM (Borough Hall, 2nd Floor)
- December 14, 2019- Sr. Luncheon-1:00PM (Heritage Ballrooms, Holmes PA)

# COMMUNITY REMINDERS!

Let's take pride in how our community looks. We have had unusual weather this grass season resulting in rapid plant growth. The code department encourages residents to continue cutting their grass, weeds, and pick up trash. Clean up grass clippings after the grass is cut. Keep in mind, curb appeal helps property values.

We treasure our parks and fields, so please be respectful and pick up any animal waste left by your pet. You will also notice that there are new recycling containers at our parks and fields - please use them. Our goal is to reduce the amount of garbage we send to the dump, thereby helping our environment and saving you money!

We will begin leaf collection within the next month. Please keep an eye out for posted notices advising when we will be coming to your block. Place all leaves onto the curb and NOT in the street.

## Trash and Recycling Concerns:

- **Trash & recycling cannot** be put out before 6pm the evening before pick-up.
- We **highly** encourage placing all trash and recyclable in closed receptacles to avoid vermin and unpleasant smells.
- Do not mix trash with recycling.
- FREE recycling containers are available to all residents at Borough Hall.
- Recycling must **NOT** be placed in plastic bags this includes and is not limited to plastic supermarket bags. Plastic bags can damage equipment at the recycling facility.
- If you missed your scheduled trash pick-up, you must wait till the following trash day for your trash to be picked up.

### UNACCEPTABLE & IS A VIOLATION



ACCEPTABLE



We ask all of our residents to remember that if you are throwing out any upholstered items (couches, mattresses, etc.), **it must be completely wrapped in plastic**. This is for the safety of our personnel as well to avoid outbreaks of bed bugs.

### UNACCEPTABLE & IS A VIOLATION



ACCEPTABLE



### UNACCEPTABLE & IS A VIOLATION



ACCEPTABLE



# Fire Chief

## ADOPT A HYDRANT

As winter approaches, please help the Borough of Sharon Hill Fire Department 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 Sharon Hill Fire Department, thank you for keeping the Sharon Hill community's fire hydrants clear of snow and keeping our communities safe!



# Finance

## 2019 BUDGET

The 2019 Preliminary Budget will see a nominal increase in year over year revenues based mostly on current operational trends and a small increase to property tax millage of approximately \$20 per property.

The Budget will see a \$225K increase in expenditures based mostly on contractually mandated salary, pension and insurance increases. Health insurance is not expected to increase; except for our Teamster bargaining unit.

The 2019 general fund tax rate will increase slightly from 7.75 mills to 7.96 mills; the total general fund budget will aggregate at \$4.492 million.

Police salary increases are estimated to be 2% as current contract negotiations are in progress; Police costs are 59.5% of the budget.

Teamsters per contract get a 3% increase; FY19 is the final year of our current CBA with Local 312.

Code department footprint is reduced and is now one

staff member and subcontracted services; saving approximately \$32K.

Library budget' increase reflects the continuance of the current staffing configuration; FY19 will also see some building upgrades from budgeted capital funds from FY18.

Trash Fee will remain at \$175 per unit.

Sewer fee will remain at \$4.90 per 1 K gallons; all set fees will remain the same as well.

Budgeted Capital outlays are approximately \$528K and include two holdover items from FY18 (\$235K Library upgrades and Welderwax grant match); as well as lease and loan obligations, purchase and a lease of police vehicles, minor highway equipment and funds for four (4) paid part time Fire Company staff to cover man-hours/call response during the day.

The tax rebate for Seniors for the Borough Trash Fee will also continue in 2019.

## Christmas Tree Collection

The Highway Department will be collecting Christmas trees on Monday, Wednesday and Friday starting January 7<sup>th</sup> thru January 30<sup>th</sup>.

## Snow and Ice Removal

- Please remember that ice and snow **MUST** be removed from the full width of your sidewalk within 24 hours of the end of the snowfall. Cleaning your walk will help prevent slips and falls, and is the right thing to do.
- Non compliance with removal can result in citations being issued.
- Don't forget to help out those who need help, the elderly or those who live alone.

*Thank You.*

## Snow

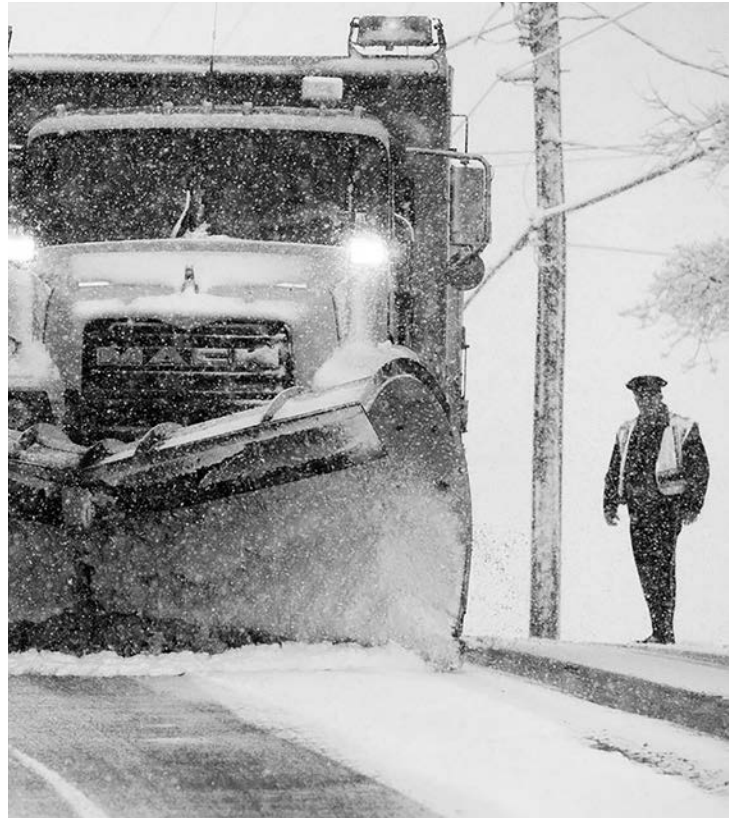
We would like to remind everyone not to shovel snow into the street. This contributes to an already dangerous situation and increases man hours, thereby raising payroll expenses. Please remember that after a snow or ice storm, all sidewalks must be cleared within 24 hours after the precipitation has ended. This ordinance will be strictly enforced. Borough employees work very hard to maintain a safe environment for residents and emergency personnel. That said, please do not put space savers in shoveled out parking spots, as these will be removed and discarded by the highway department.

### Calling all Shovelers

Every year we get calls at borough hall from residents who want to have someone shovel their properties. If you would like to have your name put on the list of available shovelers for hire, please call borough hall at 610-586-8200. Remember we are simply referring you. Negotiations are between you and the resident.



## We Need Your Help! Please Don't Throw Snow in Your Street



Each year, borough crews work to get Sharon Hill streets back in shape after a snow storm. The work can be particularly challenging.

Some residents, while clearing snow from sidewalks, cars and driveways, move that snow onto borough streets. The result is that sections of street that were plowed are once again full of snow.

On narrow roads, plows cannot get too close to parked cars without the risk of hitting a vehicle. Some times the best we can do safely is to clear a lane down the center of the road.

We understand that the plows sometimes push snow back around parked cars and onto cleared sidewalks. You may want to consider letting the plow go through your neighborhood before shoveling your sidewalk. The highway department tries to do an efficient job in a timely manner.

We need your help to keep the streets clear of snow. Here are a few tips:

1. If your car is parked on the street, please take the snow from around and on top of your car and place it onto your property.
2. If you are clearing your sidewalk or driveway, please keep the snow on your property. Don't put it in the street.

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

# Sharon Hill Public Library

## Library News

Our connection with the community makes our library a valuable resource to Sharon Hill Residents. We want our patrons to feel safe and enjoy their time at the library.

The Sharon Hill Public Library routinely holds events that are both educational and fun! Please join us for Family Fun Nights, Movies and Games.

Sharon Hill Public Library will be closing on January 2nd, 2019 due to renovations and is scheduled to reopen on March 2nd 2019.

**January 12th** we will have a presentation by Tuskegee Airman Dr. Eugene Richardson at 11:00 am at the Sharon Hill Borough Hall

**January 19th** 11:00 am at the Sharon Hill Borough Hall, we will be sponsoring a first-time home buyers' seminar. The seminar will address grants, credit repair, financial information and tips on buying your first home.

These renovations to our library will reflect our changing role to meet the needs of our community. Also, we will be introducing you to a new, exciting website. It will provide a clear message of who we are, what we stand for and what our values are as we S.T.R.E.A.M. (Science, Technology, Reading, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) into the future.



**Resident  
Sharon Hill Borough**

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250 Sharon Avenue  
Sharon Hill, PA 19079