



PENBROOK BOROUGH

2025 WINTER NEWSLETTER

Penbrook Borough, 150 South 28th Street Penbrook/Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17103 (717) 232-3733

Borough Website: www.penbrook.org



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POLICE & FIRE Emergency
Call 911

Police Non-Emergency
Call 717-558-6900

TV CHANNELS FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

WHTM Channel 27
WHP Channel 21
WAL Channel 8

RADIO STATIONS FOR EMERGENCY ALERTS

WNNK 104 FM
WRKZ 107 FM
WIMX 1460 AM/99.3 FM

Penbrook 3rd Annual Fall Fest

We would like to thank everyone who came out to make the 3rd annual Penbrook Fall Fest a huge success despite the less than perfect weather. State Senator Patty Kim and Representative Justin Fleming were in attendance for the festivities that featured numerous activities for kids including a giant slide, Bubble Magician (River Barry), Balloon Artist (James Fearn) and a fun caricature artist. Singer and musician, Roy Lefever, provided musical entertainment throughout the event. Residents were treated to free hot dogs and water courtesy of the Penbrook Lions Club as well as free popcorn provided by the borough. There were dozens of raffle prize winners, with the overall value of raffle prizes exceeding \$1000 in total value due to the generous donations by numerous supporters. Additional dining and beverage options were provided by Zeroday Brewing Company, Home of the Real Philly Cheesesteaks and Burgers and Foltz's Hand Rolled Soft Pretzels & Fresh Squeezed Lemonade. The event culminated with the announcement of the PRI's (Penbrook Revitalization Inc.) 18th annual Property of Merit Winners.



We would like to thank Senator Patty Kim (pictured to the right with Penbrook Mayor, John McDonald and Councilman, Ben Stokes) as well as Representative Justin Flemming for joining the hundreds of Penbrook residents to make the 3rd annual Fall Festival a huge success.

BOROUGH MEETINGS

Borough meetings 12/1/25, 1/5/26, 2/2/26

Caucus meetings 12/15/25, 1/20/26, 2/17/26

Parks meetings 12/10/25, 1/14/26, 2/11/26

Planning commission meetings 12/23/25, 1/22/26, 2/26/26

Borough holiday hours administrative offices closed: 11/27/25 Thanksgiving, 11/28/25 Black Friday, 12/25/26 Christmas Day, 1/1/26 New Year's Day, 1/19/26 Martin Luther King Day, 2/16/26 President's Day.

PENBROOK MAYOR
John McDonald
mayor@penbrook.org
BOROUGH MANAGER
Joseph Hogarth
manager@penbrook.org

1ST WARD COUNCIL
Nathan Newcomer
NateNewcomer@penbrook.org
Robin Dry
ward1b@penbrook.org

2ND WARD COUNCIL
David Deardorff
ward2b@penbrook.org
Ben Stokes
ward2a@penbrook.org

3RD WARD COUNCIL
Charles Burdine
ward3b@penbrook.org
Nathaniel Shaw
NateShaw@penbrook.org

4TH WARD COUNCIL
Nacole Moore
NacoleMoore@penbrook.org
Jim Armbruster
ward4a@penbrook.org



PENBROOK COMMUNITY GARDEN

The Penbrook Community Garden, located at the corner of Hillside & 31st Streets, was the brainchild of the Penbrook Leo Club members in the winter of 2021. Its mission, to grow seasonal fresh vegetables for those with food insecurities in the community to supplement the boxed and canned goods that are provided to clients of the Penbrook Manna Food Pantry.

The fresh vegetables are cleaned and bagged, then transported to the Penbrook Manna Food Pantry, which distributes the produce to eligible clients on Thursdays. The Penbrook Community Garden also has a community composting section; residents can drop off their compostable food items at the garden at any time. The Penbrook Community Garden is a Penbrook Leo Club Signature Project, exemplifying their on-going commitment to help eradicate food insecurity in the community. Each year, beginning in April through mid-November, the garden is prepped and ready for planting, the vegetable seedlings are planted and watered, the garden is weeded and mowed, and the harvesting is ongoing each week as the produce matures. This year's harvest has yielded nearly 80 pounds of fresh produce [lettuce, sweet peas, jalapeno peppers, green peppers, habanero peppers, cucumbers, zucchini, yellow squash]. At the end of August, the garden beds were refreshed, and the fall planting was completed. After the fall harvest, the garden will be cleared and put to rest until the following spring. Community residents interested in helping out at the garden are very much welcomed!



HONORING OUR CITIZENS



The Michael Goodman Sr family were honored for his time and length of service to the Borough of Penbrook.



The family of Barb Manherz were honored for her involvement in the community and her dedication to the penbrook community pool.



POLICE RESOLUTION AWARDS



RESOLUTION 2025-18

Honoring Officer Aquiler for Exemplary Service During the August 9, 2024 Tornado

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough Council of Penbrook hereby recognizes and commends Officer Aquiler for his outstanding performance, composure, and exemplary service during the August 9, 2024 tornado, which brought great credit upon himself and the Penbrook Police Department.



RESOLUTION 2025-19

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING OFFICER LEGGORE FOR HER BRAVERY AND SACRIFICE IN THE LINE OF DUTY

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Officer Leggore is hereby awarded the Penbrook Police Purple Heart in recognition of the injuries she sustained in the line of duty and her steadfast commitment to public safety and service.



RESOLUTION 2025-20

Resolution Honoring Officer Toth for Lifesaving Actions

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Penbrook hereby recognizes and commends Officer Toth, Officer Jenna Bretz, and PFC Alexander Wolf for their extraordinary lifesaving actions on May 17, 2024; and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each of these officers be awarded the Lifesaving Award in honor of their heroism, quick thinking, and dedication to preserving life in the line of duty.



RESOLUTION 2025-21

RECOGNIZING OFFICER NORTON FOR HIS DILIGENCE AND EXEMPLARY POLICE WORK

WHEREAS, on March 26, 2025, Officer Norton conducted a routine traffic stop for an equipment violation that ultimately led to a significant criminal discovery developed reasonable suspicion that the operator of the vehicle was engaged in unlawful or suspicious activity; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Penbrook hereby recognizes and commends Officer Norton for his professionalism, diligence, and exemplary performance in the line of duty. His actions on March 26, 2025, serve as a testament to his commitment to public safety and to the highest standards of law enforcement service.



RESOLUTION 2025-15

RECOGNIZING OFFICER MALEY FOR EXEMPLARY BRAVERY AND PROFESSIONALISM

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2024, Officer Maley played a critical role in the successful apprehension of homicide suspect Santiago Gutierrez; and which no innocent civilians or officers were injured or killed; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Penbrook Borough Council hereby recognizes and commends Officer Maley for his outstanding courage, professionalism, and leadership during the apprehension of Santiago Gutierrez on December 10, 2025. His conduct reflects the highest traditions of law enforcement service and the Penbrook Borough Police Department.



RESOLUTION 2025-16

Honoring Officer Tritt for Bravery and Heroic Service

WHEREAS, on December 10, 2024, Officer Tritt of the Penbrook Borough Police Department displayed exceptional courage, professionalism, and commitment to duty while responding to an armed and extremely dangerous suspect, identified as Gutierrez, who had already committed acts of violence and posed a continuing threat to the community; and NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Penbrook Borough Council hereby formally recognizes and commends Officer Tritt for his exemplary courage, professionalism, and dedication to public safety; and



RESOLUTION 2025-17

Recognizing Officer Tritt for Exemplary Investigative Work

WHEREAS, Officer Tritt conducted an exceptionally thorough investigation into a harassment allegation initially reported as a relatively minor incident; and WHEREAS, Officer Tritt's exemplary dedication, persistence, and attention to detail went far beyond the expectations of the initial case and directly led to the exposure and cessation of a widespread pattern of sexual exploitation and assault; and WHEREAS, through his exceptional investigative efforts, Officer Tritt protected the community from further harm and ensured justice for multiple victims; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Officer Tritt is hereby recognized and commended for his extraordinary investigative work, unwavering commitment to justice, and outstanding service to the community. His efforts exemplify the highest standards of the law enforcement profession and reflect great credit upon himself and the department he serves.





Storytime with SANTA!

Join us for a magical afternoon
filled with holiday cheer!



December 20th



3:00 – 5:00 PM



Borough
Administrative
Building

Enjoy free food, festive
stories, and our tree lighting
ceremony!

Meet Santa and celebrate
the season together.

Free admission | Family fun for all ages!



WINTER STORMWATER POLLUTION PREVENTION TIPS



Start shoveling early! The more snow you remove, the less salt and sand you'll need. Below are some dos and don'ts when shoveling or plowing snow.

DO

- Pile snow in locations with the most opportunity to infiltrate into the ground.
- Pile snow in areas where water does not pond.
- Clear away any snow that may have been thrown onto the storm drains.

DON'T

- Do not pile snow on top of storm drains or near water bodies and wetlands.
- Do not pile snow onto rain gardens or bioretention areas.

SNOW CLEARANCE NOTICE ALTERNATE SIDES OF STREET

Snow must be cleared from sidewalks within 24 hours after the end of a storm. When clearing the sidewalk **DO NOT PUT THE SNOW IN THE STREET**. You already pay to have your street cleared, putting the snow in the street after it has been cleared means that the Borough employees that plowed your street will have to plow it again, costing twice as much. **DON'T PAY TWICE!**

After a severe snow storm, the borough may invoke alternate side of the street parking so employees can clear the snow completely from the pavement. When this is done, watch the TV stations listed on Page 2 for information on which side of the street will be cleared first. Alternate side of the street parking means that on the odd or even day for the street to be cleared, you must remove your car from that side of the street depending on the last digit of the address number. Addresses ending with 1, 3, 5, 7 or 9 should be free of cars on odd number days and addresses ending with 2, 4, 6, 8 or 0 on even number days.

TIPS TO AVOID USING SALT AS A DEICER

More salt does not equal more melting snow. Follow product instructions when spreading deicing material and give it time to work. Sweep up any material remaining after the snow/ice melts.

When temperatures hit 15° F or below, salt is not effective. Consider using traction materials that contain an acetate, potassium chloride, magnesium chloride, or cracked cornmeal instead of sand or kitty litter.



WINTER FIRE SAFETY TIPS



INSTALL & TEST ALARMS

Carbon monoxide alarms should be tested at least once a month.



PLUG SPACE HEATERS DIRECTLY INTO OUTLETS

Never use an extension cord or power strip.



HEAT YOUR HOME SAFELY

Keep anything that can burn 3 feet away from a fireplace, wood stove, or space heater.



KEEP CHIMNEY & VENTS CLEAN

Hire a qualified professional to clean and inspect your chimney and vents at least once a year.



NEVER USE CANDLES FOR EMERGENCY LIGHTING

Always use flash lights and stock up on extra batteries.

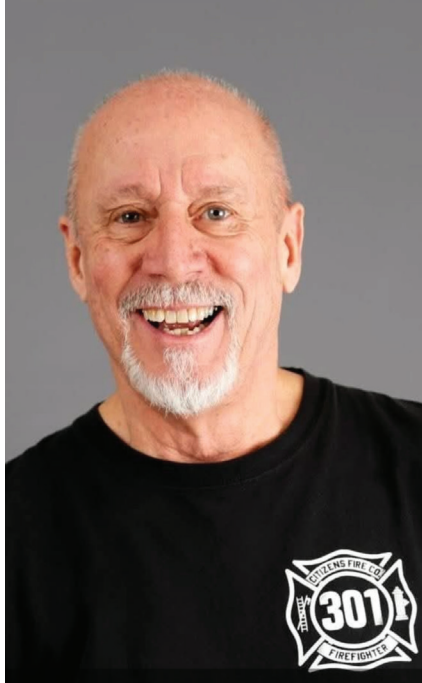


USE FIREPLACE SAFELY

Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen when using your fireplace.



A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING PRESIDENT OF PENBROOK BOROUGH COUNCIL



As I step down from my role as President of the Penbrook Borough Council, I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to this community. It has truly been both an honor and a pleasure to serve you. I want to thank everyone who placed their trust in me throughout these years.

I have served on Borough Council since January 2005, and since 2020, I've had the privilege of serving as Council President. During these past five years, we have seen many positive changes in Penbrook that make me proud of what we've accomplished together.

We are fortunate to have an outstanding Police Department—one that remains deeply connected with our residents and committed to serving with care and integrity. Our Borough Council has worked diligently with the best interests of the community in mind. Over the last five years, we raised taxes only once, and even then we reduced sewer rates to help offset that increase. While president, we also added a full-time Property Maintenance Officer, which has helped Penbrook maintain a clean appearance and remain a family-friendly place to live. These steps demonstrate a shared commitment to fiscal responsibility while making Penbrook cleaner, safer, and stronger.

As I transition out of this role, I encourage all residents to stay engaged. Your voices matter, and your input is invaluable. Please consider attending Council meetings, sharing your ideas, and continuing to help shape the future of our borough.


Thank you again for the privilege of serving you. Penbrook is a special community, and I look forward to seeing it continue to grow and thrive.

With gratitude,

Dave Deardorff
Outgoing President, Penbrook Borough Council

Our Local Food Pantries


No neighbor should be hungry.

 Cupboard at Calvary
4700 Locust Lane
717-545-0021

 Full Harvest Ministries
1416 Cumberland St.
717-514-7992

 Greater Zion Missionary
Baptist Church
212 N. Progress Ave.
717-541-0388


 Hanna's Pantry
3500 Elmerton Ave.
717-220-3839

 Tabernacle Baptist Church
2730 Booser Ave.
717-236-1774

 Manna Food Pantry
Penbrook United Church of Christ
56 Banks St.
717-220-3839

 Harrisburg Area Food Pantry
Camp Curtain YMCA
2135 N. Sixth St.
717-253-6889

 Redeemed Christian Church of God
Living Spring Pantry
3600 Vartan Way
717-671-1539

 The Salvation Army Family Services
Multiservice Program
506 S. 29th St.
717-233-6755



Penbrook Lions Pancake Breakfast

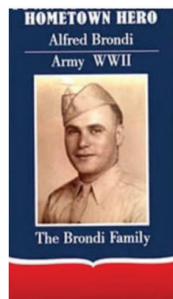


Saturday, March 21st
7:00am - 11:00am

Penbrook Borough Building

All you can eat pancakes

\$5 per person. Veterans eat FREE

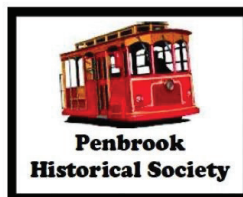


Coming soon...Penbrook Lions is launching a Hometown Heroes Banner Program as a living tribute to our community to honor past and present members of the Armed Forces.

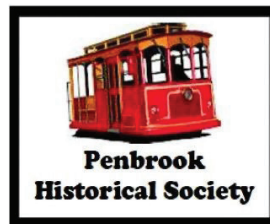
If you would like to volunteer, or know of a loved one that you would like to honor, please contact us by mail or through our website:

Penbrook Lions Club
150 S 28th Street, Harrisburg, PA 17103

Website Address: <https://e-clubhouse.org/sites/penbrookpa>



Penbrook Historical Society invites you to view historical pictures and items on display during the Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast on March 21st, 7-11am, at the Penbrook Community Building. Hope to see you then!



Come join us at our upcoming Historical Society meetings in 2026 at the Community Building on Tuesdays at 4:30pm on the following dates:

March 31	June 30
Sept. 29	Dec. 29th

Fitness every Thursday:

What: Light Aerobics

Where: Penbrook Community Building



When: Thursdays, 10:15-11:00am

Cost: Free

Who: Penbrook community members

Contact: tammymarie7@hotmail.com



Just a few reminders:

**Daylight savings time is
Sunday, March 8th 2026.**

Clocks move forward an hour.

The Penbrook Historical Society is still looking for pictures of the old Penbrook pool. Please send to admin@penbrook.org

Get it now

WE'RE MOVING

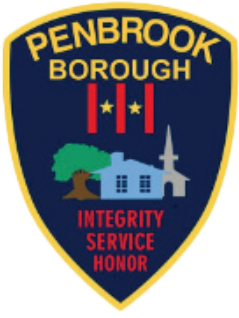
TO

**2900 Canby Street
Harrisburg, PA 17103**

**ONLY
2 MILES FROM OUR
DERRY ST. LOCATION**

**OPENING
DECEMBER 1ST**



Penbrook Borough
150 South 28th Street
Penbrook/Harrisburg, PA 17103
(717) 232-3733

OPEN HOUSE



Josh Sherrid, Patty Kim, Chiguan Steele, Frank Heffelfinger, Michaela Brady, Steve Murphy, Rob Robinson, Robin Bloss and Justin Fleming

We had an open house with the fire department and seven new applications were handed in for memberships.

Thank you!

Mayor McDonald, Senator Patty Kim and Representative Justin Fleming for attending.

