



January 2020

WATT'S NEW's



CMELD would like to wish everyone a
Happy and Healthy New Year!



**THE TOWN HALL WILL BE CLOSED ON
MONDAY, JANUARY 20, IN HONOR OF
MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY**

Please keep in mind:

- When paying your CMELD and Water Bills it is important to enclose the "return portion" of your bill with payment in order to identify the proper account.
- When using online bill pay, personal check or money order, please indicate your entire customer number.
- If you are paying 2 or more bills with one check, indicate account numbers separately and the amount to be applied to each.
- Remember, if paying both electric and water bills at the same time they must be separate payments. Water payments should be made to Chester Water Department.

Knock, knock.

Who's there?

Pizza.

Pizza, who?

Pizza on earth, good will toward men!

Why do mummies like the holidays so much?

They're into all the wrapping!!!

What does a grumpy sheep say at Christmas?

"Baaaa humbug!"

Where do snowmen keep their money?

In a snow bank!!!

What did Adam say the day before Christmas?

It's Christmas, Eve!!!

Fun Facts The name, given to the month of 'January', is derived from the ancient Roman name 'Janus' who presided over the gate to the New Year. He was revered as the 'God of Gateways', 'of Doorways' and 'of the Journey.' Janus protected the 'Gate of Heaven', known as the 'Lord of Beginnings', is associated with the 'Goddess Juno-Janus', and often symbolized by an image of a face that looks forwards and backwards at the same time. This symbolism can easily be associated with the month known by many as the start of a new year which brings new opportunities. We cast out the old and welcome in the new. It is the time when many reflect on events of the previous year and often resolve to redress or improve some aspect of daily life or personal philosophy."

Birthstone: Garnet Flower: Carnation Capricorn: December 22 - January 19 / Aquarius: January 20 - February 18

WATER METER and PIPE FREEZE UPS

With the extremely low temperatures, residents could experience water meter freeze ups. This could result in broken pipes and water running into basements. We cannot stress enough the importance of keeping the area where your water meter is located above freezing. If your basement is unheated, not only is the water meter in danger of freezing, but your water pipes beyond the meter can also freeze resulting in flooding and potentially expensive repairs. There are insulated and/or electrical wraps that can be used as well as heaters or lights on timers. Also, please keep your faucet open just a little; running with just a trickle of water. This will help to avoid any pipes freezing.

4th ANNUAL LITTLEVILLE FAIR SNOWMOBILE DRAG RACE

Saturday January 25, 2020

For more information check out
our FACEBOOK PAGE @littleville15 or our
WEBSITE littlevillefair.com



Power Outages & Downed Power Lines
Call 413-447-0268



First step: Report the outage

When your lights go out, let us know as soon as possible. When you speak to a representative, it's helpful if you can provide any of the following information: Are your lights dim or out? Did you check your fuse or breaker box for blown fuses or tripped circuits? Are your neighbors' lights out? Is a power line down? Did a tree limb fall on a power line? Is there any damage to the utility pole? Are the streetlights out? Did you hear a noise?

Next steps for your home

Turn off all electrical equipment, including your water heater, electric furnace or heaters, stove, washer and dryer, stereo and TV, to help prevent overloading the system when power is restored. (Major appliances can be turned off at the breaker box.) Do however, turn on a porch light and one inside light so you and CMELD's crew will know when service is restored.

If you see any downed utility line, stay far back and call CMELD: 413-447-0268. Keep children and pets away, too. A downed line doesn't have to spark to be dangerous. And a wire can be dangerous even if you're not touching it; water, metal, tree branches, concrete or other materials touching the wire can conduct electricity from a wire to you.

If your neighbor's power comes back on but yours does not, call CMELD again.

The Chester Hill Association is holding its annual membership luncheon and meeting on Sunday, January 12th at the First Congregational Church of Chester. on Skyline Trail. A light lunch at 1:30 p.m. will be served, followed by a business meeting at 2:00p.m., in which the Citizen of the Year will be announced and awarded for 2019. A recap of 2019 events as well as future activities, and a report from the Chester Hill sponsored Scout troop will be presented. Members as well as interested persons, and those new to Chester Hill are welcome. The Chester Hill Association is dedicated to preserving the beauty, character and heritage of our land and historic structures as well as enhancing the quality of life in our community by bringing people together in company with each other for the benefit of the town and its people. Some of the activities that the CHA sponsors are the annual MapleFest, sledding days, garden tours, Easter Egg Hunt, Trunk or Treat, speakers, summer bus trips and various other festivities. Any funds raised go to charitable causes within the town. Come join us in the newly renovated basement of the church.

Hilltown CDC/ Southern Hilltowns Adult Education Center
December 2019

All Courses are Free for Hilltown Residents www.SHAEC.org

To register for a class, call 413-354-1055 or email Southernhilltownsaec@gmail.com

GED/ HiSet

GED/HiSet Math Test Prep Tutoring: [Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester](#): Mondays & Thursdays: through December 5th 3:30-5:30pm

Phonemic Awareness Village Enterprise Center | 26 Main St, Chester. Call for intake appointment

Wednesdays 1:00-3pm

GED/HiSet tutoring/ testing and study skills

Call for appointment

Computer Help

Internet Safety VEC, 26 Main Street, Chester

Thursday, December 5th, 6-8pm

Fun Photo Fridays: with Pleun Bouricius, call to reserve your spot VEC 26 Main Street, Chester

Leave Footsteps and photo albums

Friday December 6th, 4-6pm

Bringing it to the group

Friday, December 13th, 4-6pm

Small Business Support

SBA Small Business Workshops (series of two) with Oreste Varela, VEC 26a Main St Chester Wednesdays December 4th and 11th, 5:30-7pm

Jacobs Ladder Business Association (JLBA) monthly meeting. Lyle Leigh Photography: 3 Pleasant St. Huntington Thursday, Dec. 12th, 6-8pm

Biztro: Drop-in small business support with Jeanne LeClair. VEC, 26a Main Street, Chester

Monday, December 9th, 5- 7 pm

Hikes

Hike Nobleview Park at the second lot: at 635 South Quarter Road, Russell

Saturday, December 14, 10:am – 12pm

NEWS FROM THE TOWN CLERK

YOU MATTER

This is that time of year for the Annual Street Census. Forms have been mailed to each household. It is a state law that you **check the information on your form, make any corrections necessary, and sign and return your form within 10 days of receiving it.** Included in this mailing is a pamphlet with instructions as to why this form is so important, and how to fill out the form. Please take the time to review it. Your cooperation with this means dollars to the town in the form of grants to improve services. Your cooperation means that we don't have to spend your taxpayer dollars to send multiple mailings to you. You can return it by mail, or by putting it in the black mailbox located in the front of the town hall. Please clearly mark your envelope "Town Clerk".

ELECTIONS

This year will be a busy year for elections. An election calendar is included in this mailing. Please take the time to review it and mark your home calendar with the important dates. There will be a special town election to fill the remaining 2 ½ yr term of James Higby who has resigned, as well as the state primary on March 3. Anyone wishing to run for this office must contact the Town Clerk's office.

If you would like to become an election worker for any of the 4 elections which are presently scheduled for 2020, or you are interested in more information as to what this entails, please contact the Town Clerk by phone, email, or stopping in. Shifts are variable and flexible, and training is provided. The positions pay minimum wage.

And lastly....

I will be resigning as your Town Clerk effective January 11. This has been an incredibly rewarding experience, and I have enjoyed serving you in this capacity for the last 3 years. Sr. Judith Dalesandro (Rosie), who has served as the Assistant Town Clerk, has been appointed to fill the remaining 6 months of my term.