



March 2022 WATT'S NEW?



WELCOME SPRING, MARCH 20



- **March's** flower is the daffodil, which represents hope.
- The birthstone of **March** is the aquamarine, which symbolizes courage and bravery.
- **March** comes from the name of the Roman god of war, Mars.
- The Zodiac signs are Pisces (until **March 20**) and Aries (**March 21** onwards).
- There is a famous quote about this month which states “**March** comes in a like a Lion and goes out like a Lamb”, which means that winter is ending and spring has started.
- One more name is given to this month which is “Hlyda” which means “loud” because of winds blow in this month.

CHESTER MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC LIGHT DEPARTMENT

From time to time, we need to personally contact customers by telephone. We are finding lately that many of the phone numbers on file are no longer working numbers. Please provide us with your current phone numbers. The easiest way to do this would be to note it on the payment portion of your bill, or you can call the office at 354-7811. Thank you!!

HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY—MARCH 17



Rabies Clinic



All Hilltown dogs and cats are welcome to the Middlefield/Chester Rabies Clinic! There will be a Rabies Clinic, Saturday, March 19th from 1:00pm-3:00pm at the Middlefield Town Hall on Skyline Trail in Middlefield. Dr Sharon Lynch will be the Veterinarian. Please bring your past rabies certificate if possible. Shots will be \$20.00 per pet. Middlefield Dog licenses will also be available. This will be held outside as a drive up event. Everyone will remain in their cars until directed otherwise. Any questions , please call Middlefield/Chester Animal Control at 413-354-0975.



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 13th

Don't forget to SPRING your clocks ahead!!!

What does winter fat turn into?
Spring rolls!!!

Why are Saturday and Sunday the strongest days?
Because all the others are weak-days!!!

Why did the clock in the cafeteria run slow?
It always went back four seconds!!!

What did the thief who stole a calendar get?
Twelve months!!!

I love watching videos of lakes & rivers on the internet. Anything water related really - I'm actually watching a live stream now!!!

I like to put my own stamp on things. That's why I got fired from the post office!!!



NEWS FROM TOWN COLLECTOR:

Bills for Motor Vehicle Commitment #1 have been mailed out and have a due date of 3/7/22. If you did not get a bill and think you should have please call the office. 3rd quarter Real Estate tax bills were due 2/1/22. Once again if you did not get a bill, please call the office. 413-354-6357 Failure to receive tax bills does not release you from paying Interest and fees when late.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM STAPLING CHECKS TO STUBS WHEN MAILING IN PAYMENTS. ALL CHECKS ARE SCANNED INTO A MACHINE, JUST LIKE THE BANK AND TAKING THE STAPLES OUT SOMETIMES MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO GO THROUGH THE SCANNER.

There are still quite a few Excise bills that were due 1/3/22. Demands will be going out shortly for these, please remit asap.



Chester History Museum is closed for the winter months and meetings will be held on the first Saturday of the month at 9a.m. at the Old Jail. These meetings are open to the public and we welcome those who wish to visit. THINK SPRING and while going through your attics, garage, barns etc. and come across anything pertaining to Chester History that you no longer want to keep please consider donating to the Society.

CHRONICLES OF CHESTER: British Prisoners Spent Night Here in 1777. Where One of Them Met His Future Bride. Although Gen Henry Knox, who brought the prisoners and supplies from Fort Ticonderoga to Boston shortly after the Revolutionary War, did not pass through Chester, a group of equally-renowned prisoners did go through the town, and stayed one night here while on their journey. This occurred after the surrender of Gen. Burgoyne, British military leader, and his large army at Saratoga, N.Y., in 1777, when Burgoyne's men were brought to Boston over the so called "Skyline Trail", which was the principal highway from Pittsfield to Springfield at that time. The meeting-house at the First Congregational Church at Chester Center was utilized for a unique purpose, that of a jail, on that evening, and a great number of townspeople gathered around to see the "redcoats." Among the on-lookers was Fannie Holland, the pretty daughter of James Holland, a leading citizen and farmer, who lived in the North end. It appears her charms so smote one of the prisoners, David Cross, a Scotchman that upon his arrival in Worcester, he managed to escape, in company with a friend, from the guards by means of a forged pass. His intention was to return to Chester unmolested, to seek out Fannie. He was not long away, however, when his absence was noted and the pursuit began. Accompanied by his friend, he endured great hardships, and was nearly captured several times. On one such occasion, when capture seemed inevitable, they hid in a haymow, and thus escaped detection. Arriving at last in Chester, he sought out Fannie, and became her suitor, and eventually won her for his bride. They subsequently removed to Washington, where they lived happily and respected, to a good old age.

The above is one of many old CHRONICLES found in the old scrapbook once belonging to Sam Donnelly of Chester and YES found in the attic of his home when home of sold.

