



The Forks Post

SUMMER 2024

POCONO
MOUNTAIN
CARNIVAL
July 15 - 20



~Mount Pocono's Official Newsletter~

The Mayor's Corner

with MAYOR RANDY ALTEMOSE

With Mount Pocono's 100th anniversary coming in 2027, it's a great time to look back at our history. Some of you may know parts of our story, while others might not. Knowing our past helps us understand our future. Mount Pocono has changed over the years but has always kept its beauty and peace. As we face future changes, we must also preserve what makes Mount Pocono special.



Early Days: Settlements began at Tobyhanna Mills (now Tobyhanna) and along what is now Route 196. Our town was first called The Forks. An 1860 map shows three houses and a post office/store at the crossroads. By 1875, we had a railroad depot, two hotels, a few houses, and the post office moved near the depot.

Tourism Boom: Around 1875, Mount Pocono became a popular tourist spot. What started with two hotels grew to ten resorts and many guest homes by the mid-1900s. Tourism became our main industry.

Rediscovery: Although the hotel business declined in the 20th century, the Poconos saw a comeback in the late 1960s with second home developments. Highways made up for the loss of rail service. Families settled here permanently, and by 2010, our population grew to 3,096.

Borough Building: Our Borough building was built as a school in 1899. The Borough bought it from the Pocono Mountain School District in 1961 for \$1. It was renovated in 1994-1995 and now houses the Borough offices and the Municipal Authority. The Monroe County Historical Society awarded it for historic preservation in 2013. The building displays a small classroom, photos of past students, and old pictures of Mount Pocono.

Today: Mount Pocono, at the highest elevation in Monroe County, is close to many activities like Pocono Raceway, Camelback Ski Area, Mt. Airy Casino, The Crossings Premium Outlet, water parks, and hiking. It's a

MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH DIRECTORY

Mayor Randy Altomose
raltemose@mtpoconoboro.org
President Don Struckle
dstruckle@mtpoconoboro.org
Vice-President Norman DeLano
ndelano@mtpoconoboro.org
Councilmember Claudette Williams
cwilliams@mtpoconoboro.org
Councilmember Ann Marie Harris
amharris@mtpoconoboro.org
Councilmember Debra Fulton
dfulton@mtpoconoboro.org
Councilmember Joe Simeone
jsimeone@mtpoconoboro.org
Councilmember Erin Melbert
emelbert@mtpoconoboro.org
Borough Manager Marissa Duffy
mduffy@mtpoconoboro.org
Admin. Ass't Diana Jackowski
djackowski@mtpoconoboro.org

Borough Council meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30pm in the council meeting room on the second floor of the borough building, 1361 Pocono Blvd, Mount Pocono 18344. The first meeting of the month is a business meeting; the second is a work session. The public is invited to attend and participate. The meeting schedule, agenda, and minutes are posted on the borough website at mountpocono-pa.gov.

Contact Us

mountpocono-pa.gov
 (570) 839-8436
 (570) 839-0981
 mduffy@mtpoconoboro.org
1361 Pocono Blvd., Suite 100
Mount Pocono, PA 18344
Monday-Friday: 8 am - 4 pm
[savvycitizenapp.com](#)

great place to live, shop, work, or visit, offering natural beauty and fun activities.

With its rich history and lively present, Mount Pocono remains a vital part of the Pocono Mountains and Monroe County. Our journey from a small settlement to a thriving borough shows the strength and flexibility of our residents. Mount Pocono is a testament to the enduring charm of the Pocono Mountains and the spirit of its people.

Help Celebrate Our Centennial!



MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH

INCORPORATED
1927

1927 - 2027

Mount Pocono will celebrate its Centennial during the 2027 Summer! This momentous occasion calls for an unforgettable celebration, and we need your help to make it truly special.

If you are interested in being a part of the Centennial Celebration Planning Committee, we invite you to join us in creating an event that will honor our rich history and bring our community together in joyous festivities.

To get involved and contribute your ideas, please contact Marissa Duffy, our dedicated Borough Manager, at mduffy@mtpoconoboro.org. Whether you have a flair for event planning, a passion for history, or just a strong commitment to making this celebration one to remember, your input is valuable and warmly welcomed.

The Forks Post, Volume II, No. 1, Summer 2024, ©2024 All Rights Reserved. Mailed by the USPS to residential and business addresses in Mount Pocono
Content: Mount Pocono Borough Newsletter
Committee: Council Members Debra Fulton, Erin Melbert, Joe Simeone
Designed and Printed by: Our Town Publications, LLC Mount Pocono, PA
For Advertising Information or Delivery Problems: tom@ourtownpublications.com, 570-589-0803
For Content Suggestions or any other matters: mduffy@mountpocono-pa.gov



David W. Coulter, associate broker
(c) 570-656-4890 dcoulter@kw.com
(o) 570-421-2890
Keller Williams Real Estate
404 Park Av, Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Expert Advice for a Smooth Transaction

GOTTA GO

SEPTICS

EMERGENCY SERVICE

SE HABLE ESPAÑOL **570.894.8690**



A trio of 'good-dogs' enjoy the new public dog park, located behind the borough building. The park has separated areas for big and small dogs. It is open from dawn to dusk. Make a doggy-play date today!

More than Books at PMPL!

Pocono Mountain Public Library offers numerous tech services to the community, far beyond the traditional image of a library. We provide computers with word processing software and internet access via a fast, secure 100 mb fiber connection. Our Wi-Fi is available during library hours and from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm in our parking lot.

Our staff is skilled in assisting with both library technology and personal devices. We offer printing and faxing services, ideal for those without home printers, and allow patrons to email documents to info@poconolib.org for later pickup. Privacy is protected, with documents deleted after printing.

The library continually updates its tech knowledge to serve the public, keeping pace with advancements. In 2023, we received a grant for robotics and circuit materials from the IU20 Remake Learning grant. We will offer a K-12 Remake Learning lab using Lego Spike Prime robots, Ozobots, and Sphero Bolt robots to inspire young students in STEM.

Public libraries now provide access to modern technology, including smartphones, digital media, AI, and robotics. Pocono Mountain Public Library has something for everyone!

Visit poconolib.org for more information. Visite nuestra página poconolib.org para más información.

Advertisers make it possible for us to bring this newsletter to you at absolutely no taxpayer cost. Let them know you appreciate their support and patronize their businesses!

Scouts Improve Trail

Heartfelt thanks to Marshall Aleksich and his Cub Scout troop for their outstanding contribution to our community.

Through their hard work and successful fundraising efforts, they have transformed the small overgrown trail behind the dog park into a beautiful and educational space for all to enjoy.

Thanks to their dedication, the trail now features informative markers identifying various types of trees, a picturesque stone pathway that forms a scenic loop, and several comfortable benches where visitors can relax and take in the natural beauty. These enhancements have not only made the trail more accessible but have also enriched our community's outdoor experience.

We invite everyone to visit the enhanced trail and appreciate the hard work that went into making it a wonderful addition to Mount Pocono.

Thank you, Marshall Aleksich and the Cub Scouts, for making a lasting impact on our community!

2024-2025 KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



If you have a child who meets the eligibility for the 2024-2025 school year, Kindergarten registration is now open!

The child must be five (5) years of age or more, on or before September 1, 2024.

After the registration process has been completed, your child will be scheduled for a Kindergarten orientation session sometime in August at their respective school building.

The registration packet and required document list are available on-line at www.pmsd.org under the enroll tab.

Appointments available upon request, but are not needed to register the child.

It is strongly recommended that you complete all required documents prior to turning in your child's registration.

For additional information contact the PMSD District Central Registration Office 570-839-7121 ext. 40400

2024-25 Classes Start Aug. 26!

PMSD designated a Great PA School!

The Pennsylvania School Boards Association designated Pocono Mountain School District as a "Great PA School!"

This designation recognizes Pennsylvania public schools that provide students with access to rigorous programming, are community-centric, demonstrate financial well-being and display resilience.

Mr. Nathan Strunk, School Board Vice President, completed and submitted the application for the district to be considered for this important recognition.



Help Us. Help You.

TIME TO SUBSCRIBE FOR THE DRIVE

OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR
MARCH 1 THRU DECEMBER 2024

Pocono Mountain Regional EMS is there 24/7, 365 days a year committed to serving our community. Your support makes it possible to have the highest qualified ambulance personnel and life saving equipment. Responding to over 7,000 calls in 2023 shows an increasing need for our services. As call volume increases so does operating costs. To help offset these costs and continue to give the quality of care you deserve we turn to our community for help.

Conveniently Subscribe Online at PMREMS.org



Trash Talk

CASELLA WASTE SYSTEMS HAS TAKEN OVER THE GFL CONTRACT FOR MOUNT POCONO

When Casella Waste Systems acquired GFL, it became responsible to live up to the terms of the contract GFL had with Mount Pocono. This means your trash collection will not change - AND YOUR RATES WILL NOT GO UP for the duration of the contract.

We've learned that your invoices might have a note saying the charges may increase. THEY WILL NOT - they will stay the same until this contract runs out and a new one is negotiated. Your cost will remain **\$32.93/month for standard residential service.**

You can place two bulk items out with the trash each week. (Bulk items may not include tires, electronic, refrigerators with freon, or hazardous materials)

If you have any disputes with your trash bill or service, and for any questions or problems, contact the Borough's Administrative Assistant, Diana Jackowski at (570) 839-8436 or by email djackowski@mtpoconoborough.org.

For disposal of household electronics, contact the borough for pick-up: (570) 839-8436, extension 302

Borough Property Tax Millage Rate

Real Estate: 5.15, Fire: .155, Roads: .965,
EMS: .078, Library: .155
Total: 6.503
One mill is one dollar per
\$1,000 dollars of assessed value

SCHOOL & BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR

Karen Struckle
550 Devils Hole Road, Cresco, PA 18326
570.895.4144

mtpoconotaxcollector@gmail.com

Hours of Operation: Tues 1 to 4pm, Weds 4 to 7pm, Appointments by Request

The Borough Manager's Desk

with Borough Manager **MARISSA DUFFY**

We have been hard at work in 2024 continuing to secure grants that will significantly enhance our community spaces.

I am thrilled to update you on our current applications and projects.



DCNR Grants. The borough has applied for \$700,000 to complete Phase Two of the park improvements at Memorial Park located at the Borough Building.

This phase includes the development of a wellness loop around the entire park, an expanded, updated pavilion area, and increased parking.

Looking ahead, Phase Three will introduce new playground equipment for children ages 5-12, a basketball court, and two pickleball courts.

Another DCNR grant application was made for \$105,000 to purchase a parcel in our downtown area for the creation of a pocket park.

This project aims to support our downtown businesses by providing seating, landscaping, and overall beautification of the area.

DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program- To cover the 50% matching requirement for the \$700,000 DCNR grant, Mount Pocono has applied for a \$250,000 grant from the DCED Greenways, Trails, and Recreation Program.

The borough's contribution for this match will be \$37,000. If successful, we will garner nearly a million dollars in grant money for an investment of only \$37,000. I anticipate hearing back about this funding by the end of 2024.

Knob Overlook Improvements- Since applying to three local mini-grants (One For Nature, PMVB Impact Grant, and the Pocono Forests and Waters Conservation Landscape Grant), the borough has made landscaping and signage improvements at Knob Overlook.

Future Grant Applications- I expect to be applying for several more grants before the end of the year. These include a CFA Multimodal grant for the Pinehill intersection improvements. In the Fall, we will seek LSA grants (that's the local share of the Casino revenues) to support ongoing projects like the maintenance garage and further park improvements.

Overall, Mount Pocono projects have or will be submitting applications for over \$2.5 million in grant funding for various Borough projects in 2024.

The Borough is committed to continually improving Mount Pocono's community spaces and facilities, and these grants are a crucial part of that effort.

Stay tuned for more updates as we receive further news on our applications and funding status.

COME ASK THE TRAINER,
DAVID WITH UNIVERSITY OF
PETS FOR A FREE
DOG TRAINING SESSION

MOUNT POCONO DOG PARK
1361 POCONO BLVD
MOUNT POCONO
SATURDAY
JULY 27TH
11AM-1PM

Learn basic obedience and how it can help solve behavior issues. Information on The AKC Canine Good Citizen and discounts on your homeowners policy as well as your dog becoming a therapy dog.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT UNIVERSITYOFPETS.ORG OR CONTACT US AT 570-664-3902

*Dogs must be dog and human friendly. Aggression can be addressed one on one.

Pocono Mountain CARNIVAL
since 1927

Our 98th Year!
JULY 15-20, 2024
open at 6pm Monday through Friday, 3 PM on Saturday
20 Murray Street, Mount Pocono, PA 18344

FREE ADMISSION!
Fun! Food! Games! Rides! Music!

Don't Miss The Poconos' Oldest & Largest Carnival!

- Live Bands every night with no cover charge.
- Games, Food and Fun at the biggest and best Carnival in the Poconos
- Advance ride sales online at discounted pricing see the Pocono Mountain Vol. Fire Co. Facebook site www.facebook.com/PMVFC/ for details & link
- Monday the 15th night is Ride Night, all rides are only one ticket!
- Wednesday the 17th is the Spectacular Free Firework show presented by Roy Clark Trucking, show starts after dark.
- Thursday the 18th is Reduced Ticket Night, all Rides are 1 Ticket less than normal.
- Friday the 19th is Shoprite Night, bring in cash register receipts from Shoprite of Mount Pocono or Daleville totaling \$25 or more from the week of Carnival and get a free Funnel Cake.
- Saturday the 20th is our Famous Beef Roast, starting at 5PM we serve the best Roasted Beef sandwiches you'll find anywhere.

Council President's Letter

with COUNCIL PRESIDENT DON STRUCKLE

Dear Residents and Visitors,

As we welcome the vibrant summer season in the beautiful Pocono Mountains, I am filled with excitement and pride for all the wonderful activities and improvements our community has to offer. Living in the Poconos is truly special, with its stunning natural landscapes, warm community spirit, and a wealth of recreational opportunities.



This summer, we are thrilled to highlight several new additions and enhancements that make our area even more enjoyable. Thanks to the hard work of the Parks and Recreation Commission, Road Crew Dept, and Borough Manager, we have completed a fantastic new Dog Park located behind the Borough Building. It's a perfect place for dogs to run and play safely. While you're there, don't miss the newly renovated playground area. We have just wrapped up phase one of our park improvements, providing a fresh and exciting space for our children to enjoy.

Additionally, the Knob Overlook, one of our community's hidden gems, now features new landscaping and directional signage, made possible by the PMVB Impact Grant. This spot offers breathtaking views and is an ideal location for watching fireworks or simply soaking in the beauty of our surroundings.

We're also investing in our infrastructure to ensure smooth and safe travel for all. This year's road paving projects will include the Knob Road Overlook Loop, Maple Ave, Devils Hole Road, Hickory Street, and School Drive. These improvements will enhance accessibility and safety for residents and visitors alike.

As we embark on this eventful summer season, I encourage everyone to take advantage of these new amenities and explore the natural beauty of our area. Whether you're a long-time resident or a visitor, the Mount Pocono Borough offers something for everyone—from outdoor adventures to peaceful relaxation.

Please remember to stay safe while enjoying all that our community has to offer. Let's make this summer memorable by coming together and celebrating the wonderful place we call home.

Warm regards,
Don Struckle

Borough Calendar

- July 2nd** – Borough Council Regular Meeting 6:30 PM
- July 3rd** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- July 4th** – Borough Building Closed – Observance of Independence Day
- July 5th** – First Friday 6:00 PM
- July 10th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- July 11th** – Municipal Authority Work Session 6:30 PM & Regular Mtg 7 PM
- July 15th** – 20th – Pocono Mountain Volunteer Fire Co. Carnival
- July 16th** – Borough Council Work Session 6:30 PM
- July 17th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- July 17th** – Planning Commission Regular Meeting
- July 18th** – Park & Recreation Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- July 22nd** – Safety Commission Regular Meeting
- July 26th** – 28th - Community Yard Sale – No Permits Required
- July 31st** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- August 2nd** – First Friday 6:00 PM
- August 6th** – Borough Council Regular Meeting 6:30 PM
- August 7th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- August 8th** – Municipal Authority Work Session 6:30 PM & Regular Mtg 7 PM
- August 14th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- August 15th** – Park & Recreation Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- August 20th** – Borough Council Work Session 6:30 PM
- August 21st** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- August 21st** – Planning Commission Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- August 23rd** – 25th - Community Yard Sale – No Permits Required
- August 26th** – Safety Commission 7:00 PM
- September 2nd** – Labor Day – Borough Building Closed
- September 3rd** – Borough Council Regular Meeting 6:30 PM
- September 4th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup One Day Delay
- September 5th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- September 6th** – First Friday 6:00 PM
- September 11th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- September 12th** – Municipal Authority Work Session 6:30 PM & Regular Mtg 7 PM
- September 17th** – Borough Council Work Session 6:30 PM
- September 18th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup
- September 18th** – Planning Commission Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- September 19th** – Park & Recreation Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- September 21st** – Harvest Fest 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- September 23rd** – Safety Commission Regular Meeting 7:00 PM
- September 25th** – Trash/Bulk Pickup

**Note: Meetings held in the Council Chambers at the Borough building unless otherwise noted.*



Summer Savings!

\$2 OFF

CLASSIC WASH

Enter Code **1131** Prior to Payment.

Expires 8/25/24

SAFE. CLEAN. GREEN.

Sparkle Car Wash

SparkleCarWash.com **OPEN DAILY: 7 AM TO 8 PM**

Classic Exterior Wash includes:

Wheel Blast, Spot Free Rinse, plus

FREE use of Vacuums!

3808 Easton-Nazareth Hwy.
Easton • 484.626.1513
Behind Wawa

1070 Congdon Ave.
Stroudsburg • 570.424.9687
Behind Weis

3188 PA-940
Mount Pocono • 570.355.5015
Behind Wawa

DOWNTOWN SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

Mount Pocono Borough has installed Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacons (RRFB) and Speed Display Signs (SDS) to enhance pedestrian safety and control traffic speeds along the main street section of route 611 in the borough.

The bright, rapid flashing pattern will be highly visible, even in adverse weather conditions, ensuring that drivers are aware of pedestrians waiting to cross.

Work on the project was completed June 26. We extend our gratitude to the Safety Commission for recommending this crucial project. Their dedication to improving our community's safety is greatly appreciated.



GENERAL PEDESTRIAN LAWS

Here are some of the basic Pennsylvania laws for crossing the street and driving:

- Drivers must yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk. However, they are not required to yield until the pedestrian steps into the crosswalk.

- It is illegal for drivers to pass a vehicle that is stopped for a pedestrian in a crosswalk.

- Pedestrians crossing the street without a crosswalk or intersection must yield to vehicles.

- Both pedestrians and drivers must obey traffic signals at intersections.

- Pedestrians must use sidewalks where available; it is illegal to walk on the road if a sidewalk is practicable.

Borough Boards & Committees Need Your Help

Mount Pocono Borough Council is seeking volunteers to serve on its various boards and committees.

Planning Commission - The Mount Pocono Planning Commission is looking for two volunteers. They have open seats for a regular and another one for an alternate. Both attend the meetings, with the alternate voting in case a member is absent.

The planning commission reviews land development projects and other matters before they are brought to the Council for final decision. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month at 7pm.

Municipal Authority - The Mount Pocono Municipal Authority is also looking for two members - a regular and an alternate. The Mount Pocono Municipal Authority is a quasi-independent agency responsible for the operations of the borough sewer and wastewater systems. The Borough Council appoints members of the MPMA. The agency meets at 7 pm on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

To apply for these positions, send a letter of interest to the Borough Council in care of Diana Jackowski, djackowski@mtpocoboro.org

Join the Parks & Rec Foundation

The Mount Pocono Parks and Recreation Foundation urgently seeks passionate individuals and visionary business leaders to join our monthly meetings.

Our mission is to uplift the lives of Mount Pocono residents by providing unwavering support to public parks and recreation programs. We achieve this through dedicated volunteer work, generous charitable contributions, and crucial financial support.

By raising funds, accepting gifts, and mobilizing resources, we bring projects to life that strengthen our community's fabric.

But we can't do this alone. Please, help us make a lasting impact.

Send your letter of interest to Patrice Arnold, Foundation Chair, Patricea444@gmail.com today.



Engineering firm of choice since 1972

Three Regional Offices

Bethlehem, PA 610-865-4555

Allentown, PA 610-395-0971

Kresgeville, PA 610-681-5233

www.KCEinc.com



1001 Lackawanna Trail
Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Tel: 570-587-3339

www.oneatlas.com

ENGINEERING & ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS

I'm here to help
you bundle your
home & auto



Beth Moloughney Ins Agcy Inc
Beth Moloughney, Agent
1434 Pocono Blvd Ste 102
Mount Pocono, PA 18344-1685

Bus: 570-839-3000
beth@bethinsurance.com

Hablamos Español.

I can save you time and money when you bundle your home and auto insurance. Call, click or stop by for a quote today.

Availability and amount of discounts and savings vary by state.
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL
State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas
State Farm Lloyds
Richardson, TX
State Farm Florida Insurance Company
Winter Haven, FL

**FEEL LIKE
A KID AGAIN**
START HERE. GO FARTHER.



Move beyond the pain with St. Luke's Orthopedic Care.

Let us help you reach your desired level of activity and have a future that's pain free. Trust St. Luke's innovative team of orthopedic joint specialists who are skilled in non-operative solutions, robotic-assisted technology, tissue-sparing surgical techniques, and same-day surgery for hips and knees.

**For Direct Access to St. Luke's
Orthopedic Care, call 484-526-1735.**

*St. Luke's Orthopedic Care.
Start here. Go farther.*

1-866-STLUKES • www.sluhn.org



Convenient locations throughout the region:



BRODHEADSVILLE

111 Route 715, Suite 104
Brodheadsville, PA 18322



POCONO SUMMIT

174 Harvest Lane
Pocono Summit, PA 18346



STROUDSBURG

200 St. Luke's Lane, Suite 200
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH

1361 Pocono Blvd #100
Mount Pocono, PA 18344



Advertising Information: 570-589-0803, tom@ourtownpublications.com

Published for MOUNT POCONO BOROUGH by OUR TOWN PUBLICATIONS, LLC
©2024 All Rights Reserved

Next Issue Publication Date October 7, 2024, Advertising Deadline September 1, 2024
Contact tom@ourtownpublications.com or 570.589.0803



US FAMILY TAEKWONDO CENTER

Five Ways Martial Arts
Help Your Child Succeed

- ★ SELF-DEFENSE
- ★ SELF-ESTEEM
- ★ RESPECT
- ★ SELF-CONFIDENCE
- ★ SELF-DISCIPLINE

"Call NOW for a FREE Trial Lesson!"

570-972-0880

Grand Master Kyong Kim
US National Team Head Coach

1427 Pocono Blvd., Mt. Pocono, PA 18344

www.ustcnj.com