

# BLAIRSTOWN BLURB

The Official Newsletter of Blairstown Township

August - December 2018



Taxes Due – August 1, November 1 with a 10 Day Grace Period

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TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETINGS – 2nd Wednesday

Meetings begin at 7:30pm

August 8, September 12, October 10, November 14, December 12

TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MEETINGS –4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday

Meetings begin at 7:30pm

September 26, October 24, November 28

Open Space – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday beginning at 7:30pm

August 2, September 6, October 4, November 8, December 6

Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday

Meetings begin at 6:30pm

August 6, September 10, October 8, November 5, December 3

Land Use Board – 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday beginning at 7:30pm

August 20, September 17, October 15, November 19, December 17

Always check the municipal website for updates and changes to the above dates. [www.blairstowntownship.org](http://www.blairstowntownship.org)

The Municipal Building and DPW will be closed on the following dates:

September 3 – Labor Day, October 8 – Columbus Day

November 22 & 23 – Thanksgiving, December 25 – Christmas

## TOWNWIDE CLEAN UP 2018 MON. Sept. 17 - SAT. Sept. 22, 2018

VOUCHERS MAY BE PICKED UP AT  
THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BEGINNING

**AUGUST 1, 2018**

MONDAY – FRIDAY 8AM-4PM

You must bring Proof of Ownership  
(Tax Bill and Photo ID)

If you own multiple properties you will need to provide proof for each.

For more information please visit

[www.blairstowntownship.org](http://www.blairstowntownship.org)

Property owners with a valid “Handicapped Parking Permit” may call the DPW at 908-362-8119 to arrange for pick up.

### BLAIRSTOWN SENIOR TRIPS

High Point – Montague – August 8, 2018

Octoberfest - Doolan's – Spring Lake 10/10/2018

Christmas Show – Hunterdon Hills Playhouse – 11/9/2018

Contact: Mickey 908-362-8919

### FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

With half of 2018 behind us Blairstown has experienced several events. In March the Township was hit with two major storms that caused widespread damage and power outages. I would like to thank our OEM, Police, Hose Company, Ambulance Corp., warming shelter coordinators and volunteers for their many hours of service during that time. Blairstown is truly hometown friendly!

On April 25 the Township Committee hosted an Open Public Forum at NWRHS. Thank you Deputy Mayor Van Valkenburg for compiling the information for this meeting. There were about 85 residents in attendance. The Power Point is on our Township Website. The Committee is looking to do another this Fall.

We encourage everyone to come to a Township Committee Meeting and see your Township Committee in action. If you are interested in serving on any of our Boards or Committees please contact the Municipal Clerk and ask for a Citizen Leadership Application.

Sincerely,  
Stephen J. Lance  
Mayor

### FALL CERT CLASS

In conjunction with FEMA, NJSP and Blairstown OEM, we are offering a basic CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team) class this fall. In order to help prepare our residents to better help their families, neighbors, and community during an emergency. Classes will be held at the Blairstown Municipal Building at 7pm beginning Tuesday, September 25, 2018. Learn more at [www.readyblairstown.org](http://www.readyblairstown.org).

**Disasters don't plan ahead, but YOU CAN!**

### RECREATION DEPARTMENT NEWS

You can stay informed about the exciting Recreation Offerings by visiting our Township Website: [www.blairstowntownship.org](http://www.blairstowntownship.org)

On the website you will find:

- \*Year Round Programming
- \*Program Dates and Descriptions
- \*Parks, Fields and Facilities
- \* Sports Groups Information
- \* Registration Policy & Forms

### OUR RECREATION DIRECTOR

**PATRICIA M. SAGAN**

can be reached at: 908-362-6663 ext. 232 or  
[recreation@blairstowntwp-nj.com](mailto:recreation@blairstowntwp-nj.com)

lets get  
**active**

**IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW**

The Blairstown Code Book is on our Website. Most forms you need can be found under Forms and Documents on our Website. There are many Links on the front page of our Website. If you don't have access to a computer our Municipal Staff will be happy to help answer your questions and provide you with what you need, just give us a call.

**Does a house on your road look vacant and abandoned?** We have an Ordinance for that, give our Zoning Office a call.

**Is a house on your road not being maintained?** We have an Ordinance for that, give our Zoning Officer a call.

**Are you a landlord?** One and two unit dwellings must register with the Municipal Clerk – Three or more must register with the State of NJ. The proper forms can be found under Forms and Documents on the website.

**Does my dog need a license?** Yes, by January 1 each year your dog must be registered with the Township. Rabies Vaccine must not expire prior to November 1 of the licensing year. Free Rabies Clinics are held on the First Saturday in December at the DPW Garage 9-12.

**Do you have a fire pit?** You need a permit for all open burning. Please call 973-786-6350.

**How do I register to vote, change my Party Affiliation, change my address, apply for an absentee ballot?** These forms can be found on our website, by calling the Municipal Clerk, by visiting the Municipal Building or visiting [www.warrencountyvotes.com](http://www.warrencountyvotes.com).

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**THE BLAIRSTOWN FOOTBRIDGE 125<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!**

In 1893 John I Blair ordered the installation of a new steel footbridge to replace a deteriorating wooden structure that had been built in 1877 to access the Blairstown Railway. The new footbridge cost \$3000.00 and was installed in honor of Mr. Blair's 91<sup>st</sup> birthday. It was financed primarily by Mr. Blair with some funds coming from the community. Over the years the footbridge has withstood several floods and a collapse. In 1976 the area was transformed to a park through the efforts of Township Clerk Rose Washburn and the landmark was made a centerpiece of our beloved *Footbridge Park*. Join the **Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee (BHPC)** in celebrating the anniversary of the Footbridge! Like our Facebook Page "**Blairstown Historic Preservation Committee**" and check out our **BHPC** page on the township website.

**TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE**

Stephen Lance – MAYOR – [stevelance@embarqmail.com](mailto:stevelance@embarqmail.com)

Joanne Van Valkenburg- DEPUTY MAYOR - [jvanvalkenburg@blairstowntwp-nj.com](mailto:jvanvalkenburg@blairstowntwp-nj.com)

Paul Avery  
[pavery@blairstowntwp-nj.com](mailto:pavery@blairstowntwp-nj.com)

Cynthia Dalton

Debra Waldron

[dwaldron@blairstowntwp-nj.com](mailto:dwaldron@blairstowntwp-nj.com)

**BLAIRSTOWN TOWNSHIP**

106 Route 94, Blairstown NJ 07825

WEBSITE: [www.blairstowntownship.org](http://www.blairstowntownship.org)

Telephone Number: 908-362-6663 Fax Number: 908-362-9635

**MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS EXTENSIONS**

Municipal Clerk/ Registrar– Linda Leidner –Ext. 230

Deputy Clerk/Deputy Registrar/Purchasing – Lori Nienstedt –Ext. 233

Chief Financial Officer – Christine Rolef, Ext. 227 Tax Collector – Kerri Womack – Ext. 226

Assessor- Rich Motyka – Wed 8-11 –Ext. 228 Recreation Director – Tues & Thurs - Patricia Sagan – Ext. 232

Land Use Secretary/Zoning Assistant – Linda Grohs – Mon – Thurs. 12-4 – Ext.221

Zoning Officer- David Diehl – Mon 9-4 & Wed 1:30-5 – Ext.231 ANIMAL CONTROL – Alan DeCarolis - 908-377-0808

Recycling Coordinator/Dog Licensing – Maureen De Simone – Mon, Thurs, Fri. – Ext. 235

\* POLICE NON EMERGENCY: 908-362-7668 \*

EMERGENCY: 911

Police Records Clerk – Lisa Whitesell

DPW – 908-362-8119

Eric Usinowicz, Acting Director