



Save the date for the 2023 Verona Community Picnic! This year's picnic will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 1 PM to 5 PM at Cribbs Field.

Food, live music, activities for the kids, lawn games, and more are planned!





The Verona Community Group needs volunteers! If you're interested in volunteering for a worthy cause, please email neighbors@veronacommunity.org



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### Newsletter Staff

### Important Information

### In Case of Emergency Dial 911

BOROUGH BUSINESS Scheduled Borough Council Meetings 7:00 p.m. – Second Tuesday of each month, Municipal Building

Scheduled Borough Council Workshop Meetings 7:00 p.m. – Last Tuesday of each month, Municipal Building

**Community Group Meetings** 7:00 p.m. – 7/29, 9/30, 11/18

Verona Chamber of Commerce 7:00 p.m. – Third Tuesday of each month, Municipal Building

Verona Parks and Recreation Board 6:30 p.m. – First Tuesday of even months, Municipal Building They will also be virtual until further notice, Link will be shared on our Face Book page, or by requesting a link by emailing veronaparksandrec@gmail.com.

Verona Historical Society 7:00 p.m. – Third Thursday of each month, Municipal Building

Fire Department		
465 Parker Street		
Emergency911		
Non-Emergency 412-828-3036		

*Police Chief – Ron McLemore* Lower Valley Ambulance Service

Verona Municipal Building 736 East Railroad Avenue (412) 828-8080 Open Monday through Friday 8:00am to 4:00pm CLOSED ON ALL OFFICIAL HOLIDAYS

www.veronaborough.org

### FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

by Mayor David Ricupero

As the longer and warmer days of summer replace the cooler and shorter days of spring, families begin to spend more time outside engaged in outdoor activities. Drive defensively and please watch out for pedestrians as they walk and cross streets and children playing as you drive the streets of Verona. Keep Verona's streets safe. Please slow down and drive no faster than the posted speed limit.

I would like to thank everyone that volunteered for the Earth Day Litter clean-up. Please take pride in your town by helping to keep Verona looking clean and pristine. Throw trash in designated trash receptacles found throughout our Borough, not on the street or in someone's yard.

Various Verona civic organizations as well as businesses have a fun-filled summer planned with a variety of planned activities. Look at the hew 2023 Verona Event Calendar elsewhere in this newsletter for event dates and times.

Finally, I'd like to welcome newly hired Officer Jacob Pepper to the Verona Police Department. Make sure to stop and welcome him to Verona, as you see him out and about patrolling the streets of Verona.

To everyone, I say, "Have a safe and enjoyable Summer. And always remember to keep God close in your hearts!"

## VERONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Rhoda Worf, President, Verona Historical Society

The Verona Historical Society meets on the third Thursday of each month in the Verona Municipal Building at 7 pm.

### Website: www.veronahistory.org

JUNE 10, 2023—10:00 am. Field Trip to FLIGHT 93 MEMORIAL, Shanksville, PA

JULY 8, 2023—11:00 am .....Guided tour of the **BRADDOCK'S BATTLEFIELD HISTORY CENTER** 

JULY 29, 2023—10:00 am .....Guided tour of the STONE HOUSE MUSEUM, SALTSBURG, PA

AUGUST 26, 2022—11:00 am ..... Guided tour of the SAXONBURG MUSEUM

Departures for trips start from the Verona Municipal Building's parking lot located at 736 E. Railroad Ave. at the times designated.

ATTENTION: If you are interested in contributing to the Verona Community Newsletter, by writing an article collecting news, writing, explaining a hobby, or taking pictures; contact Donald (Don) Worf at VeronaNewsRoom@gmail.com or at 412-828-3607.

The next issue of the Verona Community Newsletter, the FALL ISSUE 2023 will be published and delivered to Verona residents by September 1, 2023. Articles for the Fall issue are due to be sent, via email, to the VeronaNewsRoom@gmail.com by August 1, 2023

If you would like to place an advertisement in the Newsletter, contact **Sylvia Provenza** at **412-828-9542**.

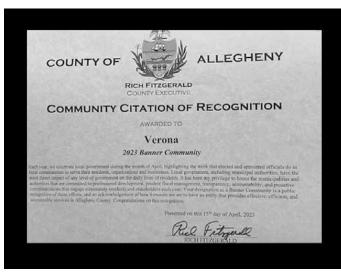
### 2023 Banner Community Designation Includes Verona Borough (ALOM Press Release)

Verona Boroughhas been recognized as a 2023 Banner Community by County Executive Rich Fitzgerald and the Allegheny League of Municipalities (ALOM). Now in its 11th year, the program recognizes municipalities that have focused their operations on professional development, prudent fiscal management, transparency, accountability, and proactive communi-



Sylvia Provenza holding Verona's Banner Community Certificate

cations. This work, in turn, engages community stakeholders. Verona Borough is one of 84 organizations recognized.





The Allegheny League of Municipalities is a nonprofit organization created in the early 1960s to coordinate the needs of the area's local elected officials. In 1974, it was officially established as the Allegheny League of Municipalities to coordi-

nate, advocate, and educate the hundreds of elected officials within its member municipalities in Allegheny County and southwestern Pennsylvania. The organization educates elected officials, delivers essential resources, and advocates for sound policy and legislation.

### Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



#### New job, new retirement account options

Changing jobs? Consider these 401(k) options:

- · Leave the money in your previous employer's plan
- · Move it to your new employer's plan
- Roll it over to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA)
- · Cash out the account subject to early withdrawal penalties

We can talk through your financial goals and find the option that works best for you.

#### Seth D Thompson, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AAMS™



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### SUMMER DRINKING, HAVIN' A BLAST WITH **INNER GROOVE BREWING**

**Bv Kellv Melle** 

Summer is right around the corner, and our schedules are filling up quickly. Inner Groove Brewing wants to be sure you have our summer events jotted down. You wouldn't want to miss some of the coolest events happening right here in Verona. Summer lovin' happens so fast .... tell me more, tell me more!

We can't believe it either, but Inner Groove turns 4 this year! And in keeping with tradition, we will be disco dancing through the day and into the night of June 17th. Pop-up vinyl vendors will line the pavilion in Railroad Park, and a DJ will be spinning tunes so you and the family can shake your groove thing. Bring your blankets, chairs, or wagons and plan to spend the day record shopping, doing a little dance, drinking a little love, and getting down that night.

On July 15th, Inner Groove Brewing will collaborate with Fermata Brewing of Ambridge to bring you the first-ever Blues, Brews, and Barbecue. This bash, in Railroad Park, will feature barbecues from some of the best pit masters around. We will be pouring brews into the backdrop



of great live blues music. A collaboration beer will be released that day as well. There will be more details as the time grows near so keep your eye out for more announcements about the Blues, Brews, and Barbecue bash in the park.

Ho, Ho Here we go again. July is not complete without celebrating Christmas, summer style, on July 28th. Come in your Santa hats, ugly sweaters, or Hawaiian duds and Get Lit with Santa as only we adults can do. Festivities include your favorite Christmas carols, food trucks, and of course ice cold IGB brews. A toy drive benefits the kiddos of Verona so bring a new toy and come get Lit!

August 12th Verona will be cruising East Railroad Avenue with the annual Verona Car Cruise. Classic cars will line the street and parade around the town, and it's right outside our doors. Bring the family and check out the rides while sipping on some Inner Groove offerings. Food trucks will be on hand to satisfy everyone. We will have fun, fun, fun till they take the T Birds away.

Reminders - Inner Groove has Radical trivia, not for the faint of heart, every Thursday night at 7:00. Gather your team, come early to get a table, and enjoy a radical trivia competition. Every other Wednesday we have bar BINGO at 7:00. Free to play and always a great time. Come play BINGO and win some *faaaabbbulous* prizes!

These and other cool announcements are always found on our website, Facebook, and Instagram. We also have reminders throughout the tap room. If you haven't stopped by, it's been a while, or we saw you yesterday, you are always welcome at 751 East Railroad Avenue, Verona. Inner Groove Brewing sounds delicious.

## **Plans Are Underway For The VOPP Trail Corridor**

Allegheny County desires to connect all the county parks with trails and green corridors and thus Verona - Oakmont - Penn Hills - Plum have joined forces to develop and implement the VOPP Trail. The VOPP Trail Corridor will potentially run roughly 14 miles, connecting these four communities and local parks via a trail from the Allegheny River to Boyce Park. The waters of Plum Creek travel along a green corridor through these communities passing Plum Creek Park, Milltown Community Park, Penn Hills Community Park, and then Creekside Park on its way to Verona and the Allegheny River. This summer the VOPP Committee will hold its first Public Meeting on the entire 14-mile section. This will be a follow-up to a previously held public meeting in early 2023 for the section from Steel City Rowing on



the Allegheny River to Allegheny River Boulevard and Plum Street to Creekside Park. Please be on the lookout for more information regarding details of this summer's important Public Meeting for the entire VOPP Trail Corridor.





**Office Renovations** Additions & Remodeling **Decks & Outdoor Rooms** Commercial/Residential **Construction** 412-828-1415 Fax: 412-828-7343 Jessieco@jessiecoinc.com 720 Diamond Way, Verona, PA 15147 PA001645

Michael R. Vento, President

Willian "Red" Craig

### **VOPP PHASE 1 TRAIL**

THESE ARE CONCEPTUAL RENDERINGS ONLY

# **MEG L. BURKARDT ATTORNEY AT LAW**

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# **RIVERVIEW RELAY FOR LIFE** Event Details

By Aly Weifenbaugh, Development Manager, American Cancer Society

The annual Riverview Relay For Life will be held on Saturday, May 20th, 2023, at Riverside Park in Oakmont, PA from 10:00 AM- 10:00 PM. The event is open to the public and is free to attend! You can register at www.relayforlife.org/pariverview or by calling 1-800-227-2345. While it is not required to register for the event, we do encourage it so that you can receive important event information. This year's Relay For Life will be shared with Riverview Deck Hockey's "Hockey For Life" tournament fundraiser to help create a bigger and better community-wide event for all! You can also donate or find more additional event information can also be found on the website.

### 2023 Event Theme: "Don't Stop Believing in a Cure!" (the 80s themed!)

### What is Relay For Life?

Relay For Life is a community-wide walking-based event full of hope, hosted by the American Cancer Society, where communities across the world have come together to honor, celebrate, and remember loved ones and take action for lifesaving change in the fight against ALL types of cancer. While there is a walking track provided at Relay For Life and we encourage walking the track throughout the day, walking all day is unnecessary. The significance of the walking track started in 1985, when Dr. Gordon Klatt walked a track for 24 hours straight in Tacoma, Washington, to help raise awareness of one of the nation's biggest health concerns: cancer. As Relay For Life changes and evolves throughout the years, we hope to incorporate the significance of the walking aspect of the event with fun ways to keep it new and exciting, such as offering survivor recognition, food trucks, live music, basket raffles, craft vendors, music, games, prizes, entertainment and more! Funds are raised at the event and year-round to benefit Relay For Life. These funds directly support breakthrough research, 24/7 support and services for cancer patients, access to lifesaving screenings, and much more.

### **Event Timeline**

•	10:00 AM	Opening Ceremonies Begin followed by our first Cancer
		Survivor + Caregiver Lap

- **11:00 AM** Kid's Fun Run begins at a lower level of the park
- Sweets for The Street and Knapp-Kins Food Trucks Open! • 11:00 AM
- 11:30 AM Local dance performance from Amy's Dance Academy
- 12:45 PM Russ Truby Memorial Recognition + Award Presentation
- 1:00 PM Cancer Survivor Luncheon + Survivor Photo
- Live Music by Nacho Blues • 2:00 PM
- 3:00 PM Bingo!
- Free Kid's Face Painting 3:30 PM
- 50/50 Raffle Ticket Winner Announced (Must be present to win!) • 7:45 PM
- 8:00 PM Luminaria Ceremony Begins to stay up to date with the event

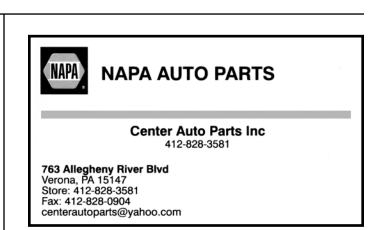
timeline, donate, or receive more information, please visit www.relayforlife.org/pariverview.



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Washington, PA	(724) 228-6446



DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	TIME
	MA	Y	
May 12 <sup>th</sup>	Movies in the Park – The Sandlot	Railroad Park	Dusk
May 20th	Botany & Booze	Railroad Park	12 - 3 PM & 4 - 7 PM
May 29th	Verona/Oakmont Memorial Day Parade		9:30 AM
	JUN	E	
June 1ª	First Farmer's Market of the Season!	Railroad Park	2 – 7 PM
June 7⁵	First weekly Story Time at the Community Garden	Verona Community Garden – 246 246 W Railroad	11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
June 9th	Movies in the Park – Aladdin	Railroad Park	Dusk
June 10 <sup>⊪</sup>	Verona Bike Derby	Verona Police Department	11 AM – 1 PM
June 17	Shakespeare in the Park – Hamlet	Cribb's Field	7 PM
	JUL	Y	
July 8≞	Shakespeare in the Park – Richard the III	Cribb's Field	7 PM
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Kennywood Picnic	Kennywood	All Day
July 21₅	Movies in the Park – Indiana Jones & the Temple of Doom	Railroad Park	Dusk
	AUGL	JST	
August 11 <sup>1</sup>	Movies in the Park – Ready to Rumble	Railroad Park	Dusk
August 12 <sup>™</sup>	Verona Community Yard Sales	Borough Wide	8 AM – 2 PM
August 12 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Car Cruise	Railroad Park	2 PM – 9 PM
August 19⊪	Battle in the Borough 5	Cribbs Field	Gates @ 3 PM First Match @ 6 PM
	SEPTEN	/BER	
September 8 <sup>th</sup>	Movies in the Park – Star Wars Empire Strikes Back	Railroad Park	Dusk
September23 <sup>,,</sup>	Verona Community Picnic	Cribbs Field	1 – 5 PM
	осто	BER	
October 27 <sup>th</sup>	Movies in the Park – Hocus Pocus	Railroad Park	Dusk
	NOVEN	/BER	
November 18.	Jolly Jamboree	Railroad Park	TBD

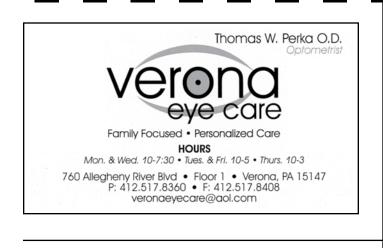
### **ONGOING EVENTS**

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION	ΤΙΜΕ
Weekly on Thursdays from 6/1 - 11/16	Verona Farmer's Market	Railroad Park	2 – 7 PM
Weekly on Wednesdays from 6/7 – 7/27	Story Time at the Community Garden	Verona Community Garden – 246 W Railroad	11:30 AM – 12:00 PM

As events change or are added, the Verona Community Group will update the Online Community Events Calendar, located here: https://www.veronacommunity.org/events

Verona Community News





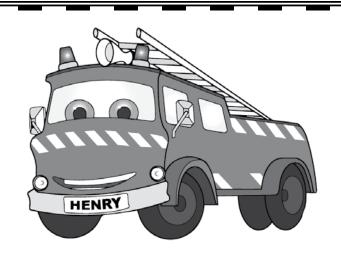


### YOU DESERVE ACCLAMATION !!

555 Wildwood Ave	Hours
Verona, PA 15147	Thu 5-9pm
www.acclamationbrewing.com	Fri 4-10pm
info@acclamationbrewing.com	Sat 12-10pm
@acclamationbrewing	Sun 1-7pm







**Verona Volunteer Fire Company** 

### **Annual Toy Drive and Spaghetti Dinner/Open House**

Dan Tihey, Chief, Verona VFC

The Verona Volunteer Fire Company is excited to announce its 3rd annual Christmas in July Toy Drive to benefit the Allegheny Valley MCL 827 Toys for Tots. We will be accepting new and unwrapped toys for this event, and we ask that no stuffed animals be donated. In addition to the Toy Drive, we will have a basket giveaway. For every toy donated, the donor will receive a raffle ticket for a basket that week. A winner will be picked each week during the drive. Also, every donor will get one entry into a "grand prize" basket that will be raffled off on the last day of the event. The Toy Drive will take place at the Verona Fire Station on July 8th, 15th, and 29th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm, and August 5th from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

With that said, we will be wrapping up the last day of the Toy Drive on Saturday, August 5th with a Spaghetti Dinner, and Open House from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the Verona Fire Hall. We will be offering spaghetti with a side salad, bread, beverage, and dessert. The dinner will be \$12 for adults, \$6 for children 14 and under, and a \$1 discount will be given if making a toy donation that evening. For the Open House, we will have firefighters on hand to invite you into the fire station to see the apparatus and equipment that we work with, learn how a volunteer fire station operates, discuss fire prevention, and fire safety, and have an opportunity to dress like a firefighter. This will be a great educational event for residents of all ages, and we look forward to interacting with the people that we are proud to serve.

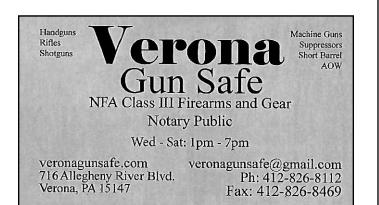
As always, the Verona Volunteer Fire Company is accepting applications for active firefighters as well as junior (16-17 years old) firefighters. If interested, we can be found at 465 Parker Street any Monday night from 6:30 pm to 9:00 pm or you can message us on Facebook to arrange a visit. All training is provided through the Allegheny County Fire Academy. Be sure to check out our new website at veronavfc.org

# **Public Dock**

The Three Rivers Heritage Launch in Verona, also known







### Bruce E. Dice & Associates, P.C.

Craig H. Alexander Attorney At Law

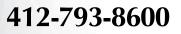
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### **LET'S BE HEALTHY** NATURALLY

By Sylvia Provenza, Director Of Freedom of **Choice In Health And Nutrition** 

### WOMEN, CHECK IN WITH YOUR HEART AND ... **REDUCE YOUR RISK OF DISEASE!**

It may surprise you to learn that heart disease is the leading cause of death for women in the United States. Major risk factors for heart disease include high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, obesity, unhealthy diet, lack of exercise, and excessive alcohol consumption.

### Choose healthy fats...

Omega-3 fatty acids from wild-caught fatty fish (including sardines, salmon, trout, herring, and kippers) or fish oil, olive oil, and avocados show the greatest promise for heart health by encouraging healthy cholesterol levels and discouraging inflammation of the blood vessels.

Alongside fish oil, flax, chia, and hemp oils also have beneficial fat profiles, but they all go bad rapidly - which makes them harmful - and are best kept refrigerated, used quickly, and not heated.

### Fill up on fiber...

Soluble fiber helps reduce blood sugar and cholesterol while detoxifying. The best dietary and supplemental sources include beans, whole grains/bran, ground flax or chia seeds (kept frozen so they don't go bad), and pears. Gradually increase your daily dose of fiber to give your microbiome a chance to adjust and limit gas and bloating.

### Bite into bitters...

Bitter-tasting herbs and foods stimulate digestive function while also regulating appetite, cravings, and blood sugar if consumed before meals. Food sources include bitter salads, endive, artichoke, grapefruit, and black coffee.

### Color is key...

Compounds associated with blue-purple-red pigments in certain foods decrease cardiovascular inflammation and oxidation while encouraging healthy, less fragile blood vessel lining. You'll find them in colorful superfoods including berries, tart cherry, pomegranate, dark-purple grapes, and hibiscus flower tea as well as green tea, dark chocolate, and pure cacao. Several cups of hibiscus tea daily may manage blood pressure as well as common medications including lisinopril (watch for herb-drug interactions and always work with a doctor on adjusting or removing medication).

I hope you have found this article helpful and informative. In closing, have an enjoyable summer.

DISCLAIMER: This column is for educational purposes only. It is not intended to diagnose, treat, cure, or prevent any disease. If you have any health concerns, see your healthcare provider.

### **DRIVE-IN CINEMAS**

By Frank W. Santucci

Drive-in Theaters - a real flash in the pan. It has been said that necessity is the mother of invention. In New Jersey, a man by the name of **Richard Hollingshead** was so tired of hearing his mother complain about how she was unable to go to indoor movie theaters and see the latest movies. She was a very, very large woman, and the theater seats could not comfortably accommodate her size.



This constant dialogue drove him to think of various ways to satisfy his mother's wishes. So, in the early 1930's he thought, what if I would rent movies and show them on white sheets hung in his backyard? Needless to say, his mother was delighted and her excitement energized Richard to patent the first Drive-In Theater on June 6, 1933, in New Jersey. This became a very popular business endeavor. The 1950s and '60s were the peak years with over 4,000 drive-in theaters operating in the United States. Most began with food stands that sold drinks and popcorn. Some had playgrounds where young children could entertain themselves before the movies began. In the beginning, the sound system was attached to a tower that covered over 15 acres. Later improvements produced individual automobile speakers and then finally transmission directly to the car's radio.

Most of the early movies were B and R-rated. Eventually, first-rate movies became available, so many families took advantage of the opportunity to enjoy outings together with economic pricing. Pajamas became the uniforms worn to watch the shows. Some drive-in theaters offered a one-price deal for a carload of moviegoers. Young teens are always challenged to see how many they could pack into one car.

Locally there were twenty-one theaters in the Pittsburgh area. Silver Lake in East Liberty was the favorite along with Gateway in New Kensington and, our local one, Harmar Drive-In on Freeport Road and Route 910 opened August 30, 1950, and closed November 4, 1968. The final movie shown was "The Odd Couple." The Ardmore Drive-In Theater started in September 1950 with space for close to 1200 cars opened to the "Horse Soldiers" movie and closed in September 1976. In Vandergrift, the Riverside Drive-In Theater still remains open – naturally, weather permitting.

Currently, there are approximately 300 drive-in theaters still operating successfully throughout Pennsylvania, Ohio, and New York. Their demise came about when VCR home movies became available and popular.



### **Politics Are Local! Go Out and Vote Because It Is Your Right!**

Sheri Kai

I was born and raised in a communist country. Regular citizens have no say in anyone that oversees any governing position. It is determined by the Communist party leaders. I voted for the very first time after I became an American citizen. An immigrant like me takes the democratic process very seriously. Voting rights are a privilege unique to democratic countries. Once I became a mother, I became more interested in politics. I started to get involved and take the time to research political candidates. Here are my feelings when it comes to local elections.

Local elections are an essential part of our democratic process. They allow citizens to choose the leaders who will represent them in their local government. It is crucial for voters to be informed about the candidates running for office and to focus on the merit of the candidate, not their party affiliation or popularity.

First and foremost, it is important to assess a candidate's contributions to the community. A candidate who has a track record of actively engaging with the community, listening to their concerns, and addressing them effectively should be given serious consideration. Such a candidate is likely to have the best interests of the community at heart and will work tirelessly to improve the quality of life for its residents.

It is also important to examine a candidate's qualifications and experience. A candidate with a strong

TEL: 412-828-1051



educational background and relevant experience in public service or community involvement is likely to be better equipped to handle the responsibilities of local government. It is crucial to assess a candidate's skills and knowledge in areas such as budgeting, planning, and problem-solving, as these are essential qualities for an effective local government leader.

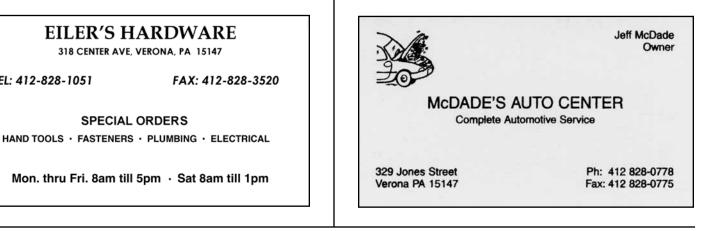
Furthermore, it is important to look beyond a candidate's party affiliation. While political parties can provide a general sense of a candidate's political beliefs, they do not necessarily reflect a candidate's ability to govern effectively. It is essential to assess a candidate's specific policy proposals and how they align with the needs and values of the community. Voters should prioritize finding a candidate who is committed to serving the community and is willing to work across party lines to achieve common goals.

Finally, it is important to avoid treating local elections as a popularity contest. Candidates who are well-known or have a strong social media presence may have an advantage, but this does not necessarily translate into effective

governance. Voters should focus on the candidate's character, integrity, and commitment to public service. A candidate who is honest, trustworthy, and has a clear vision for the community's future should be given serious consideration.

In conclusion, local elections are an opportunity for citizens to choose the leaders who will represent them in their local government. It is crucial for voters to be informed about the candidates running for office and to focus on the merit of the candidate, not their party affiliation or popularity. By examining a candidate's contributions to the community, qualifications and experience, policy proposals, and character, voters can make an informed decision that will benefit their community in the long run.

This is a local election year which means many voters do not pay attention to the election nor care about the candidates. However, to many of us, local elections are just as important. Your local representatives are accessible and have a more direct influence on your community. The candidates that are running for **Riverview School Board, Verona Council** and County Council can be found at https://www.alleghenycounty.us/elections/index.aspx . Please take some time to get to know these folks. One way to do it is to attend School Board meetings and your local Council meetings. You will most likely catch one of the candidates there.



## **Summer Reading at Oakmont Library And Experience Kits**

#### Beth Mellor, Director of the Oakmont Carnegie Library

Summer reading at the Oakmont Library is from June 10th through August 5th. This is the time of year to read something you enjoy, whether it is a new travel book, cookbook or gardening book, a great mystery, or a sweet romance. It is all up to you just to read and enjoy. The theme for the 2023 Summer Reading is "All Together Now" and the children's department has put together a slate of programs for the summer.

Also coming back this summer will be our 2023 EXPERIENCE KITS. Each kit contains 4 free passes to a unique local historical attraction and suggestions for other places of interest to the family in that area. For this program, we partner with the Heinz History Center, so that our communities have access to these local historical sites. Here is the list of historic sites that we will have Experience Kits for by June:

- Heinz History Center (with Fort Pitt Museum and Meadowcroft)
- Old Economy Village
- Historic Fort Steuben
- David Bradford House & amp; Whiskey Rebellion Education Center Ф**Ф**Ф
- Fort Ligonier
- **000** Railroaders Memorial Museum and Horseshoe Curve

These Experience Kits are picked up at the library first come/first serve and are at the front.





Looking for individuals to play bridge once/twice a month.

Please contact Rhoda at 412-828-3607

### **Verona Welcomes Newly Elected VCC President, Stefani Garibay**

### By Bonnie Wilhoit

BW: I recently had the pleasure of interviewing Verona's newly elected Verona Chamber of Commerce President, Stefani Garibay. First, let me sincerely congratulate you, Stefani, for your election as president of the VCC.

SG: Thank you. And thank you for taking the time to learn more about the Verona Chamber of Commerce, I'll preface these answers with this: It is the first year we have a new President, executive board, and board members. While we have some remaining original members, I believe with our new additions, changes in executive leadership, and already laid the foundation we can grow, prosper, and give back more to our members and community.

Q: Please give us a brief synopsis of your involvement with the Verona Chamber of Commerce:

A: I became involved with the Verona Chamber of Commerce in November 2015 and have been on its board ever since. Over the years I have played a small and supportive role in our various events. Recently I took on the Verona Farmers Market and started our ornament contest with our local elementary school, this winter was our 3rd contest, and within the last 2 years have coordinated our Jolly Jamboree with fellow board member and newly elected Vice President, Jen Walzer, and councilwoman Trish Hredzak Showalter that is held just before the Oakmont-Verona Holiday parade begins.

#### Q: Please talk about the Chambers' role in invigorating Verona's business corridor:

A: Historically Verona Chamber has played a large role in invigorating Verona. Our holiday décor, banners, the new welcome sign, and our community events (a short example ) are all supported by, paid for, or run by the Verona Chamber in some fashion. Supplementally providing for the borough, as our funds allow, is necessary for community beautification efforts and maintaining events that bring our community/businesses together.

#### Q: What are three goals you wish to accomplish as president of the Verona Chamber?

A: You've got to crawl before you can walk. I'm filling some big shoes, so I think I'll start out small with realistic, attainable goals, which include:

- 1. Improvement in communications/ relations with Chamber members. 2. Increased effort to bring in new
- members
- 3. To be better each day than the day before.

### Q: What are the challenges for your members?

A: It's no secret ... rising costs and staffing.

#### Q: What are the benefits offered through membership in the VCC?

A: Membership with the Verona Chamber of Commerce offers its members...

 Marketing & Promotional Opportunities via website/social media • Various community and networking events. • Member discounts from participating members • A voice in Chamber policy-making developments • Increased business credibility

#### Expand your network

You get out of it what you put into it", someone once told me. As we grow I hope to add Business and Professional development opportunities for our members. To our members and prospective members, we encourage ideas/plans/suggestions/education for our growth as a Chamber of Commerce.

#### Q: What key factors attract businesses to Verona?

A: The key reasons why Verona is attractive to new businesses is because...

- It's a Community-oriented town.
- It has an easily walkable core busi-
- ness district. · The core business district has
- demonstrated continued growth
- · Real estate availability (There's plenty.. join us in Verona!)
- · Verona has a STRONG, SUPPORTIVE, and **RESPONSIVE** Chamber of Commerce!

#### Q: Who can join the Verona Chamber of Commerce?

A: Any business in Verona Borough, and/or Allegheny County, according to our by-laws, Verona Borough residents/ property owners are also eligible to join the chamber.

Costs to join:

• Resident- Suggested donation of \$20; • Small Business ( under 50 employees) - \$100:

• Large Business (over 50 employees) - \$200

#### Q: How can one become involved?

A: If you'd like to join and have a vested interest in supporting our business members and community, our application is online, or if you'd just like to volunteer, help run/organize an event, we will always welcome a helping hand. You can email me directly at Sgaribay16@gmail.com for further information. We will also accept donations to further the efforts in supporting our businesses and community.

Or Stop by one of our chamber meetings held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Verona Borough Building 736 E. Railroad Ave, Verona PA 15147 at 7 pm.

#### Q: What are some community events that are sponsored by the VCC?:

A: Verona Chamber currently sponsors the following community events:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Verona Farmers Market
- Kennywood Picnic
- Halloween festivities
- · Ornament Contest with local elementary school
- Jolly Jamboree/Holiday Parade

#### Q: What are Chamber's Networking events?

A: We have 4 slated networking events being planned for this year, details and dates are TBD, by February we should

• Easter Egg Hunt • Verona Farmers Market • Kennywood Picnic • Car





know, or at least by the time this article goes to print. Check our website at www. verona-pa.org for our events. If you're interested in hosting a networking event and have missed signing up for the current quarterly events, we would love to talk with you and add more throughout the year or sign you up for next year's networking events.

#### Q: What committees does the Verona Chamber support and encourage membership participation in?:

A: Currently the VCC offers and encourages its members to participate in any of its active committees which include:

- Cruise Halloween Festivities • Jolly Jamboree • Verona Chamber Christmas Party • Business liaison
- Networking Social Media/Website
- Strategic planning/Marketing
- Christmas Lights/Décor
- Boulevard Banners/Veteran Flags
- Scholarships

I'd like to thank Stefani for her candid responses to my questions. By the way, Stefani is the proprietor of Etta's Boulevard Dog Day Care here in Verona. And my Roscoe attends Etta's too and absolutely loooves it! He gives it five woofs!

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# UPMC SENIOR COMMUNITIES



### What Goes Into A **Retirement "Paycheck"?**

During your working years, you generally know how much money you're bringing in, so you can budget accordingly. But once you're retired, it's a different story. However, with some planning, you can put together a "paycheck" that will meet your income needs.

Some of this "paycheck" will come from Social Security. You may also receive a pension, though pensions have become much rarer. In any case, you may need to draw from your investment portfolio (401k, IRAs, etc.) to meet your income needs.

Your portfolio may provide you with dividends and interest income. But you'll also likely have to start selling investments. How much you need to sell each year, and the types of investments you sell, will depend on a variety of factors, but you'll want to be careful not to take out too much, too soon. A financial professional can help you determine the amount and type of investment sales that are appropriate for your current needs while considering the needs of your portfolio over your lifetime.

When tapping into your investments as part of your retirement "paycheck," you'll also want to pay attention to the amount of cash in your portfolio. It's a good idea to have enough cash available to cover a year's worth of living expenses, even after accounting for other sources of income, such as Social Security and/or pensions.

You may be retired for a long time so take the steps necessary to plan for a consistent retirement "paycheck."

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Member SIPC



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Seth D. Thompson, CFP<sup>®</sup>, AAMS<sup>®</sup> Certified Financial Planner Office: 412-828-2437 Email: seth.thompson@edwardjones.com 201 Allegheny Ave. Suite 2, Oakmont, PA 15139

# **NEWS FROM THE TWIN-BORO'S HEALTH MINISTRY**

The staff of the Twin Boro's Health Ministry wishes to extend a sincere "Thank You" to its many volunteers who prepare, serve, and deliver meals each month. Without their dedicated support, the programs sponsored by the Twin Boro's Health Ministry would cease to exist.

A special recognition and thank you goes out to the following for their unwavering support:

- our annual Easter Foodbank.
- their six local food banks. This collected food was used to re-stock the shelves of these six Foodbanks.
- were served during each of these months.
- could use its services please don't hesitate. Call the Verona Methodist Food Bank at 412-828-7394.
- Williams Family. Food for the August 30th dinner will be prepared by the Borough Council of Verona.

The Summer Lunch & Fun Camp will be held at Verona United Methodist Church this year. Please enter through the basement entry or the Center Avenue ramp to the kitchen and dining area entrance.

The Summer Lunch & Fun Camp runs from June 12 through August 4, 2023.

Breakfast is served from 8:00 am until 9:30 am. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 1:30 pm.

cation and return it with your child on the first day of Camp, June 12th.

The Summer Lunch & Fun Camp will provide structured activities, along with crafts and games, and much more under the guidance of trained camp leaders(1). Anyone under the age of 18 is welcome to a free meal.

The Clothes Closet is free to all. However, an appointment is necessary before visiting it. Please call Shirly Davis at 412-828-3412 to make an appointment.

The Clothes Closet is always accepting donations of used clothing. Currently, we are accepting clothing more suited for Fall and Winter in anticipation before the colder seasons are upon us.

(1) The Twin Boro's Health Ministry's Summer Lunch & Fun Camp Program is seeking Volunteers, (with appropriate clearances) to help with the summer program. Please contact Shirly Davis at 412-828-3412 for further details.

### C/O THE VERONA METHODIST CHURCH 798 HERRON AVE. **VERONA, PA 15147**

### By Shirly Morealo/Davis, Director of the Twin-Boro's Health Ministry

• John Henry, proprietor of Verona News for his generous donation of twenty-five hams and various canned goods. for

• the Riverside Community Church for conducting a Food Drive on Good Friday. Church volunteers collected food for

the Presbyterian Senior Care, Longwood of Oakmont, Riverside Community Church, and the family and friends of Joy Barnes for sponsoring January's, February's, March's, and April's Dinners. Between 150 and 160 individual hot dinners

Denny and Judy who run the Food Bank. They are here to serve anyone who needs food. If you or someone you know

to Charlie & Nihla, Barb & Tom, Barb, Kristyne, and Diane & Family for their Twelve-months of continued service in preparing and serving Dinners. All upcoming dinners will be served at the Verona United Methodist Church from 4:30 pm until 6:30 pm. Food for the May 31st dinner will be prepared by the Oakmont Presbyterian Church. Food for the June 28th dinner will be prepared by the Oakmont Elks. Food for the July 26th dinner will be prepared by the

### **BIG NEWS**

- Summer Lunch & Fun Camp application forms will be sent home with students from the Verner Elementary School in Verona and the Tenth Street Elementary School in Oakmont before school ends for summer vacation. Please fill out the appli-

### THE CLOTHES CLOSET



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Susan A. Koch May 08, 2023

Wilhelm, Sylvia A. May 08, 2023

Baila, Ann Mae May 07, 2023

Slipski, Norbert A. May 06, 2023

Sapsara, Mary P. May 06, 2023

Lyle, Brett C. May 05, 2023

Clifton, Doris R. May 05, 2023

Manuel, Carol Ann May 05, 2023

Kauffman, Charlotte B. May 03, 2023

Williams, Steven N. May 01, 2023

O'Leary, Donald R. April 29, 2023

Karnavas, Alexander J. April 28, 2023

Gensler, Kenneth C. April 28, 2023

DeMonaco, Lawrence J. April 28, 2023

**Reuss**, Felicia April 25, 2023

Bradburn, Kathleen April 22, 2023

Stapel, James W. April 21, 2023

Hagmaier, Dolores A. April 17, 2023

Ricketts, Edward L., Jr. April 16, 2023

Schuelke, Patricia A. April 14, 2023

Pecze, Joseph E. April 14, 2023

Duderstadt, Belinda April 13, 2023

Cugini, Rita April 12, 2023

McGregor, April April 08, 2023

Metar, James J. April 07, 2023

Zalar, Dolores April 07, 2023

Leppold, Bernadette C. April 07, 2023

Davis, Elizabeth D. April 06, 2023

Maxwell, Mary M. April 03, 2023

Basgall, Jarett R. April 03, 2023

Kemp, Mildred April 03, 2023

SanRocco, Armond J. March 31, 2023

MacDowell, Gary March 31, 2023

Provenza, Mary Ann March 30, 2023

Meyers, William J., Jr. March 30, 2023

Pratt. Mabel March 29, 2023

Simpson, Paul F. March 27, 2023

Davis, Christine March 25, 2023

Powers, Joseph M. March 24, 2023

Flannigan, Dennis March 23, 2023

Herilla, Mary March 23, 2023

Chapa, Daniel March 22, 2023

**Bell, Beverly E.** March 14, 2023

Kranak, Mary R. March 12, 2023

Wagner, Dolores March 08, 2023

Hewett, Suzanne A. March 06, 2023

DeMonte, Daniel A. March 04, 2023

Katzin, Loretta A. March 04, 2023

Yots, Sue March 03, 2023

Savinda, Annabelle February 27, 2023

Ross, Linda L. February 27, 2023

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Flinn, Patricia February 24, 2023

Hill, Virginia February 19, 2023

Spurling, Lynn R. February 19, 2023

Flynn, Bernard W., Jr. February 18, 2023

Young, Nanette February 17, 2023

Straus, Betty J. February 17, 2023

Kear, Margaret M. February 16, 2023

Milcic, Dulcie February 16, 2023

McCaslin, Dr. C. William, III February 14, 2023

Ray, JoAnn February 13, 2023

Sciarrino, Joseph J. February 12, 2023

Stoller, Danny February 10, 2023

McGrath, William February 09, 2023

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Jacqueline Kay Doonan February 2, 2023

Sharon Berggren February 12, 2023

Virginia Edwards

February 12, 2023 John "Jack" D. Ariondo February 24, 2023

Gregorio Quattrocchi March 8, 2023

Kier G. Ewing, Jr. March 8, 2023

**Idamary Moore** March 20, 2023

March 9, 2023

Walter F. Lewandowski, Jr.

Angeline A. Ferraco March 23, 2023

**Todd E. Barnes** April 3, 2023

Mary M. Gent April 18, 2023

Rita D. Marino April 26, 2023



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Starting May 2, 2023, HOT LUNCHES will once again be available at RCAC. Lunches will be served at noon Monday through Friday for a suggested donation of \$1.25. Reservations must be made 24-hours in advance and as a requirement of the county 20 people need to register each day or the lunch will be cancelled. Please call RCAC at 412-828-1062 for reservations and what's on the menu. The monthly menu is also available at www.rcacorp.org and in the center's newsletter. Bring your friends and join us for lunch.

RCAC has seven exercise classes offered weekly.

Monday - Chair Yoga at 10:30 a.m. and Tai Chi at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday - Let's Get Movin' at 10:30 a.m. and Line Dancing at 1:00 p.m.

Thursday - Somatics at 10:30 a.m.

Friday - Line Dancing at 10:00 a.m. and Let's Get Movin' at 11:15 a.m.

It's a proven fact that exercise keeps you more flexible and mobile. No reservations necessary, just come on in. Nominal fee.





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