

MAYOR'S REPORT TO THE COUNCIL AND CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE PRESENTED: 05 April 2021

<u>Vehicle Code Compliance Directed Patrols:</u> I appreciate the dedication of our officers assuring motor vehicle compliance by monitoring traffic, as time permits, and enforcing the laws of the Commonwealth while responding to calls for assistance by our residents and visitors.

Pa. Move Over Law: Takes effect April 27, 2021 and requires drivers approaching an emergency response area who are unable to safely merge into a lane further away from the response area to slow to at least 20 mph less than the posted speed limit. An emergency response area is where an emergency vehicle has its lights flashing, or where road crews or emergency responders have lighted flares, posted signs, or try to warn travelers. Sets fines at \$500 for first-time offenders, \$1,000 for a second offense, and \$2,000 for a third or subsequent offense.

<u>Police Services Requests</u>: As citizens requests patrol checks throughout the Borough, GPD will make every attempt to accommodate such requests realizing that one or two officers are working and must prioritize and respond to requests for services.

<u>Month of April is Alcohol Awareness Month:</u> Meant to raise awareness about alcohol abuse especially with COVID-19. Alcohol sales in the U.S. have grown by nearly 30% over the past year with greater susceptibility to misuse, addiction, and relapse. Many police related calls are alcohol abuse and drug use related...from domestic calls, child abuse, thefts, and motor vehicle crashes. It is estimated that 90,000 people die every year from alcohol-related causes.

<u>A Beautiful Community:</u> May Day Clean-up has been scheduled by the G-A Chamber of Commerce May 1 (agenda item) in cooperation with Waste Management and local organizations; Lions / Lioness' Easter Treats allowed the Easter bunny to hand out treats to over 100 youngsters this past Saturday afternoon at the G-A School campus. Thanks to the Lions and Lionesses for bringing this program to the community; Scout Troops 99 and 199 combined efforts with a food drive March 27 donating to food pantries at two Greencastle churches. My congratulations to the GAHS girls and boys basketball teams for their successful seasons. The girls varsity team made it to the play-offs. Come on baseball and softball!

Dr. Evon Barvinchack's Community Service: Dr. Barvinchack recently passed away leaving a legacy of community services in G-A and nationally. Locally, Dr. Barvinchack served for many years on the Greencastle Area Water Authority and Greencastle Sewer Authority serving as Chairman along with leadership in the Boy Scouts of America. To his family, we remember Dr. Barvinchack for his lifetime of community service.

Respectfully submitted: Ben Thomas, Jr.