



**MAYOR'S AND POLICE REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL AND
CITIZENS OF GREENCASTLE
August 5, 2024**

POLICE OPERATIONS / ACTIVITIES: With limited staffing our personnel have been very busy with criminal investigations. One included the theft of many firearms. Fortunately, thanks to the quick investigative work by GPD, all of the weapons have been recovered.

It is important that we do all we can to hire and fill our police vacancies as officers are regularly working alone handling challenging calls. **I recommend our Personnel Committee meet with our police staff to brainstorm ways to recruit and hire future police officers.**

Regarding the agenda item suggesting PennDot authorize reducing the speed limit on the eastern portion of E. Baltimore Street, I've attached the GPD Enforcement Priorities Report for the subject area. Based on past experience it is doubtful that PennDot will authorize speed limit reduction, however, there's one way to find out. The 85th percentile speed in the report is the speed at or below which 85 percent of the drivers will operate with open roads and favorable conditions. The assumption underlying the 85th percentile speed is that most drivers will operate their vehicle at speeds they perceive to be safe. Otherwise, it's ashamed that our Pa. legislature will not authorize radar / lidar for municipal police use as this is a critical safety factor that is being politically ignored.

RADAR SIGNS USAGE: You've been observing our three signs deployed along various streets in the borough to alert motorists of their speed and to slow down!

August 6 is National Night Out in the U.S. I encourage our citizens to turn on their porch lights for this event. Due to GPD staffing, work-load, and vacations, we were unable to have our own events as we had in the past prior to COVID.

DRY CONDITIONS / MONITORING FIRE HAZARDS: I'm in constant contact with G-A EMC John Alleman who consults with the fire chief on a regular basis as we monitor dry season conditions for a possible future fire ban. The Mayor may authorize for a seven day period then Council may ratify or close out the ban. No ban is in effect at this time; however, we closely monitor dry conditions, air quality, water supply volumes, and other factors. We are hopeful that relief will come later this week with the pending tropical storm.

G-A Chamber SIDEWALK DAYS: This year's event was held Friday and Saturday, July 12 and 13. Note that Baltimore Street remained open to traffic as vendors were set up

around Center Square, portions of N. Carlisle Street, the first blocks of South Carlisle Street, South Jefferson Street, and North Jefferson Street. I appreciate traffic control assistance provided by Rescue Hose Co. fire-police and Greencastle police officers who provided foot patrol. Also, thanks to Pa. State Police who also provided foot patrols for the event.

CITIZEN'S CONCERN REGARDING THE INTERSECTION OF N. ANTRIM WAY AND W. MADISON STREET EXTENDED: I forwarded information to the Borough Manager and Public Safety Chair to review this intersection at a future committee meeting.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING REPORT: Citizen Larry Pittman reports three events in July where the locomotives' engines were shut down while stationary.

I am honored to represent Greencastle working with our law enforcement personnel and partners daily, attending many public events, new business ribbon cuttings, and talk to our local merchants in Greencastle. On July 9 I joined Emilee and EMA Coordinator John Alleman as we met with representatives of the American Red Cross who provided a list of services available to our citizens during emergencies for disaster resources and veterans' affairs. I presented a Mayoral Citation to Alma Hoffman on her 102nd birthday celebrated July 12. Alma is a lifelong resident of G-A and worked at the former First National Bank of Greencastle for over 40 years and was a lead teller most of those years.

My congratulations to Antrim Township who recently celebrated the 175th anniversary of the Martin's Mill Covered Bridge. I have many challenging and fond memories of this historic structure; from being washed from its piers in June, 1972 during Hurricane Agnes followed by a community and volunteers to rebuild the bridge. Later, receiving several significant grants to install steel understructures to support the bridge as the Martin's Mill Bridge Association relinquished ownership to the Township.

Greencastle, Pennsylvania's 9/11 Weekend of Unity
September 7 and 8, 2024
PATRIOT'S DAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 (Wednesday)

If you are of a certain age we remember that day...where we were...our thoughts, concerns, and the sacrifices made that day and in the past 20 years. "Never Forget!" Greencastle remembers September 11, 2001 when this great Nation was attacked in New York City, the Pentagon, and in rural Somerset County, Pennsylvania at Shanksville. The attacks occurred at 8:46 A.M.; 9:03 A.M.; 9:37 A.M.; and 10:03 A.M. 2,996 civilians, firefighters, EMS personnel, police officers, and military personnel died that day. Thousands were injured with many more paying the ultimate sacrifice in our military and from illnesses caused by the September 11th attacks. The physical and mental trauma continues today.

ACTIVITIES:

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7: 9/11 WALK: Consider joining the Mayor, and members of the Rescue Hose Company of Greencastle, PA at 8:30 A.M. for a walk from Eastern Avenue to Baltimore Street simulating the 110 floors (2,071 steps) of the World Trade Center that firefighters, police officers, EMS providers, and civilians climbed and descended to saving many citizens that morning. The walk will

proceed west to Center Square then continue to N. Washington Street (Veteran's Monument and Memorial) at the Greencastle Police Headquarters (60 N. Washington Street) where a moment of silence and remembrance will be held (approximately 9:00 A.M.) for A GATHERING; NEVER FORGET; WE REMEMBER with prayer offered to culminate the 9/11 WALK.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14...FISH WITH A COP: This annual event is held at the Greencastle Sportsmen's Farm Lake and sponsored by the Greencastle Police Department as organized by Officer Mike Brenman.

TENTATIVE: GREENCASTLE REMEMBERS BLUE GRASS CONCERTS; PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS: A live patriotic blue grass concert will be held at 2:00 P.M. Saturday (Sept. 7) featuring the D&S Bluegrass at the Rescue Hose Co. Fire Station, 842 S. Washington Street.

ENCOURAGE A WEEKEND OF UNITY AND GOOD DEEDS: Citizens and groups are encouraged to help neighbors, family members, and those in need this weekend with a good deed by helping around their homes and properties or just by visiting showing love and support.

CHURCHES ENCOURAGED TO HOLD SERVICES COMMEMORATING THE SACRIFICES MADE ON 9/11 AND BEYOND: Ministers and congregations are encouraged to include 9/11 reflections during their weekend services.

Thanks for supporting our great community.

ACTIVE ITEMS:

- Downtown parking inventory, new systems, private owner partnerships and directional signage for parking
- Recommendation for "parking with arrow" signs downtown
- Downtown truck traffic (letter authorized to PennDot requesting local truck traffic on Baltimore Street) sent
- Crosswalk, E. Baltimore Street @ S. Ridge Avenue (letter sent to PennDot)
- Recruitment and Retention grant for newly hired police officer/s

Respectfully submitted, *Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor*



Enforcement Priorities Report

239 E. Baltimore, EB / 310 e. baltimore st, WB / 318 E. Baltimore St., WB / 329 E. Baltimore St., EB / 414 E.

Start: 2024-01-01

End: 2024-07-31

Times: 0:00:00-23:59:59

35 MPH

Violation Threshold: Speed Limit +10

Speed Range: 1 to 150

Rank Results By: 85% Speed

#	Site	Day of Week	Time	Speed Limit	Average Speed	Average Violator Speed	85% Speed	Average # Vehicles	Average # Violators
1	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Mon	2:00 - 3:00	25	33.0	42.4	43.0	31	12
2	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sun	2:00 - 3:00	25	34.0	44.3	42.0	33	12
3	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Wed	1:00 - 2:00	25	30.0	40.7	39.0	32	7
4	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sat	4:00 - 5:00	25	30.0	40.1	39.0	36	8
5	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Wed	2:00 - 3:00	25	30.0	40.7	38.5	63	17
6	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Wed	0:00 - 1:00	25	31.0	40.0	38.5	51	14
7	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Mon	3:00 - 4:00	25	33.0	40.5	38.0	48	16
8	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Mon	4:00 - 5:00	25	31.0	39.1	38.0	139	37
9	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sun	5:00 - 6:00	25	31.0	43.1	38.0	48	10
10	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Thu	0:00 - 1:00	25	31.3	40.5	38.0	55	12
11	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Tue	0:00 - 1:00	25	30.7	39.6	37.5	55	14
12	E. Baltimore St, WB	Tue	2:00 - 3:00	25	31.0	40.7	37.4	24	5
13	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Mon	0:00 - 1:00	25	30.7	40.5	37.1	46	12
14	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Thu	5:00 - 6:00	25	31.1	39.4	37.1	215	50
15	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Tue	2:00 - 3:00	25	30.0	38.7	37.0	63	18
16	318 E. Baltimore St., WB	Wed	0:00 - 1:00	25	31.0	42.1	37.0	77	15
17	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sun	7:00 - 8:00	25	31.0	38.5	37.0	139	26
18	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sun	23:00 - 24:00	25	29.0	39.1	37.0	76	17
19	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Mon	4:00 - 5:00	25	30.0	40.0	37.0	60	10
20	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Tue	2:00 - 3:00	25	31.0	43.3	37.0	31	8
21	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Wed	4:00 - 5:00	25	32.0	40.7	37.0	53	12
22	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Wed	6:00 - 7:00	25	31.0	38.1	37.0	229	48
23	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Thu	4:00 - 5:00	25	30.5	38.4	37.0	69	18
24	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Fri	1:00 - 2:00	25	30.0	39.7	36.9	42	9
25	414 E. Baltimore, WB	Sat	0:00 - 1:00	25	30.6	42.3	36.9	34	6

35 mph