



**MAYOR'S AND POLICE REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL AND  
CITIZENS OF GREENCASLE**  
**October 7, 2024**

**NATIONAL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK:** The National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) announced “Smoke alarms: make them work for you!™” as the official theme for [Fire Prevention Week™](#), October 6–12. This year’s focus on working smoke alarms comes in response to NFPA data, which shows that the majority of U.S. home fire deaths continue to occur in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.

Saturday’s Fire Prevention Week open house was held at the Rescue Hose Company with hundreds of citizens attending the annual program. I personally spoke with several citizens that attended the open house for the very first time and were amazed at the equipment, operation, and history (museum).

**NEW BOROUGH TAX COLLECTOR:** On September 27, applied the oath of tax collector to Michael Bock who replaced his mother, Barbara, following her recent passing. Mike was serving as deputy tax collector and had previously been the elected tax collector so he is very familiar with the operations. On Saturday, I attended a memorial time for Barbara Bock representing the Borough government.

**POLICE OPERATIONS / ACTIVITIES:** With limited staffing our personnel continue to be very busy with criminal and supplemental investigations.

**FCADC APPRECIATION DINNER:** Along with Council member Mike Stenger, we attended the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Industrial Appreciation Dinner on September 12. Congratulations to the award recipients, small business award: Martin Custom Farming of Shippensburg; Large business award: DHM (David H. Martin). John Massimilla of Wellspan Health received the Zane A. Miller Award.

A special thank-you to Cornerstone Bible Church of Greencastle for holding special 9/11 services on September 15 recognizing our Greencastle-Antrim first responders that included a meal. I was pleased to attend and speak along with several of our police personnel, Rescue Hose Co. personnel including our fire-police. During our 9/11 Walk of Remembrance that was held on September 7 a good turn-out was present that included our first responders, veterans, businesses and churches from the G-A community that donated water and energy drinks to our police and fire / EMS personnel.

**E. BALTIMORE STREET SPEED REDUCTION:** I was pleased to read the Sep. 27 letter from PennDot regarding speed reduction from 35 to 25 MPH extending on E. Baltimore Street. It is unfortunate the speed enforcement will be very difficult due to restrictions enumerated in the PA Vehicle Code.

FISH WITH A COP: Thank-you to Officer Mike Brennan for a successful day for this event held on September 14.

ACTIVE GRANT APPLICATIONS UNDER REVIEW: From my contacts in Harrisburg grant awards may not be announced until November, 2024. Two grant applications that were submitted last November, 2023. 1. For replacement police vehicles over the next two years; 2. The "Town Hall" downtown park.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN TRAIN IDLING REPORT: Citizen Larry Pittman reports four events in September 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, budget and other committee meetings, new business ribbon cuttings, and talk to our local merchants in Greencastle.

I announce the recent passing of Greencastle resident Ken Peiffer, III. Ken served as a police officer (part time) here in the early 1980s'. He was a long time Franklin County Deputy Sheriff and served as Chief Deputy. His memorial service is Saturday, 26 October 2024, 1:00 P.M. at Greencastle Church of the Brethren.

Respectfully submitted, Ben Thomas, Jr. Mayor