

THE EVERGREEN

Historic Pine Grove . . . Early Settlers
Noted the Area's "Fine Stand of Pines"

Vol. XVII, No. 1 - Issued Semiannually

BOROUGH OF PINE GROVE, PA

September 2025

Community Comes Alive at Pine Grove Veterans Memorial Park

Food Truck & Vendor Markets Set to Return in 2026

Pine Grove Veterans Memorial Park was transformed into a vibrant hub of community spirit and local flavor when a new event was held two times this summer. The Food Truck & Vendor Market attracted residents and visitors alike.

From pulled pork and ice cream trucks to hand-crafted jewelry, natural soaps, and fresh flower bouquets, the market showcased a sampling of the area's culinary and creative talent.

Both market events brought people together in a relaxed, family-friendly setting. Each featured a festive atmosphere celebrating the diversity and entrepreneurial spirit of the region.

Building on this success, the Pine Grove Borough's Community Development/Parks & Recreation Committee is considering hosting regular food truck and vendor markets at Pine Grove Veterans Memorial Park in 2026. The 2026 markets will continue to support small businesses and foster community connections,

while also raising awareness for the Committee's mission to enhance recreational opportunities in Pine Grove.

Whether you're a foodie, a fan of local crafts, or simply looking for a fun way to spend an afternoon, the Pine Grove markets promise something for everyone. Stay tuned for the full 2026 schedule and get ready to experience the heart of Pine Grove - one bite, one booth, and one beautiful day at a time.

Did You Know?

Did you know that Pine Grove Area School District is actually comprised of several different municipalities, not just Pine Grove Borough?

Do you know what municipality you reside in? You can go to the Schuylkill County website at <https://schuylkillcountypa.gov/> and click on "How Do I..." on their home page; then select Map Viewer. There you will find instructions to search your address.

The parcel locator will provide you with the Tax ID number along with the municipality you live in. Pine Grove Borough is District 58. If your Tax ID starts with 58, then you live in Pine Grove Borough.

Did you know that sidewalks are the responsibility of each property owner to maintain. Please go onto www.pinegroveborough.org and select the Ordinance tab. Pine Grove Borough Code 360 will show up and enter "sidewalks" in the "search" area. Any ordinances pertaining to sidewalks will show up.

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 18 - Autumn Stroll along Veterans Memorial Drive at Union Canal Park from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Celebrate the season with family, friends, and join community organizations to enjoy food, crafts, and entertainment in a beautiful setting.

Saturday, Oct. 18 - Pine Grove Holiday Classic Parade, sponsored and coordinated by the Pine Grove Lions Club, steps off from American Legion Boulevard at 7 p.m. in the region's best parade of the season.

Friday, Oct. 31 - Trick-or-Treat night from 6 to 8 p.m. for youngsters, 12 years of age and younger. Turn your porch light on to indicate youngsters are welcome to get a treat. Rain date is Saturday, Nov. 1.



Saturday, Nov. 29 (?) - Holiday Tree Lighting. Date and Time are yet to be confirmed.

Saturday, Dec. 6 (?) - Christmas Stroll In The Grove, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. along Veterans Memorial Drive. Pine Grove Borough and Township businesses welcome all to this 5th annual event celebrating the holiday season. Date and Time are yet to be confirmed.

CHECK THE BOROUGH WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK FOR UPDATES!



Free Parking for the Holidays

Parking Will Be FREE at
Meters in Pine Grove Borough
Monday, Dec. 1 Thru Friday, Jan. 2

2025 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

Regular Council Meeting:
2nd Thursday of Each Month - 6 p.m.
Municipal Building - 1 Snyder Ave.

OFFICIALS

Mayor Willard Shiffer
 Chief of Police..... Thomas J. Trotter, IV
 President of Council..... Leroy Bates
 Vice President of Council..... Elaine Holley
 Pro Tem..... Kyle Burke
 Borough Manager Melissa A. Dyer
 Tax Collector..... Katie Burke
 Solicitor Shane Hobbs, Esquire
 Engineer..... One Atlas
 Floodplain Admin. Light-Heigel & Assoc.
 EMA Coordinator..... Dave Sattizahn
 Code Enforcement..... Light-Heigel & Assoc.
 Health Officer Lew Moyer

COUNCIL

Leroy Bates • Kyler Burke
 Skip Butler • Elaine Holley
 Devin Lymaster • Aimmee Reilly
 Debra Thompson

POLICE

Thomas J. Trotter, IV - Chief
 Mike Dissinger • William Gelgot
 Gino Ricigliano
 Mark Vandermartin • Beau Yarmush

STREETS & WATER DEPARTMENT

Jake Dinger, Streets Crew Leader
 Robert Kolb • Zach Peters

BOROUGH OFFICE

Melissa A. Dyer
 Amanda Lutz • Mandy Miller

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS

ADMINISTRATION, BUDGET & FINANCE

Leroy Bates • Kyler Burke
 Elaine Holley

PERSONNEL

Leroy Bates • Kyler Burke • Elaine Holley

PUBLIC WORKS

Kyler Burke • Devin Lymaster • Debra Thompson

PROPERTY & NATURAL RESOURCES

Leroy Bates • Elaine Holley • Debra Thompson

FLOOD MITIGATION

Skip Butler • Elaine Holley • Devin Lymaster

COMMUNITY DEV. • PARKS & RECREATION

Kyler Burke • Elaine Holley • Aimmee Reilly

PUBLIC SAFETY

Skip Butler • Elaine Holley • Aimmee Reilly

STORM WATER COMMITTEE

Leroy Bates • Devin Lymaster • Debra Thompson

Country Christmas 2025

Mended Heart and the Pine Grove Theater have scheduled three performances of a Country Christmas Concert & Celebration 2025. Choose among Saturday, Dec. 6 at 6 p.m. or two shows on Sunday, Dec. 7... a matinee at 2 p.m. and an evening show at 7 p.m.

Previous year concerts have been sold out well in advance. Reserved seats are offered with a \$15 donation per seat. A remittance coupon and additional information can be found in the advertisement on the back page of this issue of *The Evergreen*.

The country-style Christmas concert features a variety of professional musicians and vocalists that have joined together over the past several years to bring this concert to the community. In its first year, the attendance - a one-night performance - drew 350 people. Last year the attendance was nearly 1,000 people over the two nights and three performances.

Due to the growth of the audience and the overwhelming response, the concert venue is once again at the Pine Grove Theater, 213 South Tulpehocken St., in Pine Grove. Parking is available at School Yard Square, just one block from the theater. Shuttle service to the front door of the theater (and return) is being provided by Newhurst Bus Company.

Several new attractions have been added to the lineup this year. There will be some laughs and some memories from the community, If you enjoy country-style Christmas music, you don't want to miss this exciting concert with a Nashville sound.



H. L Snyder Funeral Home, Inc.

139 S. Tulpehocken Street • Pine Grove

Phone: 570-345-2266

- Family owned and operated, serving the area since 1915.
- 4th generation of providing funeral, cremation, memorial and graveside services.
- Pre-planning services available.
- Handicapped accessible; playroom area for children.

Dianne M. Snyder Zimmerman, Supervisor

Lisa A Harner, Funeral Director

www.hlsnyderfuneralhome.com

Summer Surge at Our Community Swimming Pool

This summer has brought a wave of excitement – and swimmers – to the Pine Grove Community Swimming Pool! With many neighboring community pools closed for the season, our pool has become a popular spot for families, friends, and water lovers looking to beat the heat and enjoy some fun in the sun.

Record-breaking attendance

Due to the closures in surrounding areas, we experienced a significant increase in daily visitors. From morning lap swimmers, water aerobics, swimming lessons, and early evening visitors, the pool was buzzing with activity this summer. Our lifeguards and staff have done an incredible job keeping things safe, clean, and welcoming for everyone.

Grant expands access for water safety

We're proud to share that Pine Grove Community Swimming Pool was selected as a recipient of the Step Into Swim grant, a national initiative aimed at increasing access to swimming education and water safety. This generous funding allowed us to offer free swimming lessons to local children, helping dozens of young swimmers gain confidence and learn life-saving skills in the water. The grant has been a game-changer for families who may not oth-



erwise have been able to afford lessons, and it reinforces our commitment to making swimming safe and accessible for all members of our community.

What this signifies for our community

The surge in attendance has not only brought more energy to our pool, it has also highlighted the importance of having a reliable, well-maintained community pool. We're proud to be a place where neighbors can gather, kids can learn to swim, and everyone can cool off and connect.

Meet the Pine Grove "Pool Pals"

With increased usage comes increased wear and tear. A group of dedicated and concerned citizens has recently approached the Pine Grove Recreation Committee with a shared goal: to support the long-term sustainability and success of our pool. They've formed a new organization called the Pine Grove Pool Pals, and they're already exploring various ways to contribute... from fundraising and volunteer coordination to advocacy and facility improvements. Their passion for preserving this vital community resource is inspiring, and we're excited to work alongside them to ensure the pool continues to thrive for generations to come.

Keep an eye out for more information on how to join, support, and follow the Pool Pals online. It's another great way to stay involved and make a splash in our community!



Designed by Kitchens Plus in La Mesa, CA.

WHY US?

At Showplace, we are just different than other cabinet manufacturers. We think it has something to do with our Midwestern values. Things like being kind, taking care of one another, work ethic, reliability, and honesty.

WE CARE ABOUT WHAT WE CREATE. WE CARE ABOUT THE IMPACT WE HAVE.

WE CARE ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO WORK FOR US.

WE CARE ABOUT OUR CUSTOMERS AND THEIR EXPERIENCE.



29 S Tulpehocken St
Pine Grove, PA 17963
570-345-2561

NEW HOURS:

MONDAY – FRIDAY
7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

SUNDAY
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Borough Services Update . . . And Seasonal Tips!

Street sweeping coming mid-October

Borough street sweeping will take place from Wednesday, Oct. 15 through Tuesday, Oct. 21. Check the Borough website and Facebook page for more information. Vehicles should be moved from the scheduled streets.

Fall season brings falling leaves

Curbside collection of bagged leaves will take place on Thursdays - Nov. 6, 13 & 20 - and conclude on Wednesday, Nov. 25. Leaves must be bagged and tied. Place tied bags along the curbs so the borough crew can safely pick them up.

Twice per week ash collection

Ashes will be picked up on Tuesdays and Fridays beginning Tuesday, Nov. 4 and continue through the heating season. Tubs must have handles and be free of sharp edges.

Christmas tree collection

Pine Grove Borough will collect discarded Christmas trees every Thursday in January, beginning Jan. 8. Trees must be placed at the curb. Please remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights and tree stand.

Borough holiday closures

Pine Grove Borough offices and employee operations will be closed in observance of the following remaining holidays in 2025: Columbus Day - Monday,

Oct. 13; Thanksgiving - Thursday and Friday, Nov. 27-28; and Christmas Eve and Day - Wednesday and Thursday, Dec. 24-25;

Holidays next year include New Year's Day - Thursday, Jan. 1; Good Friday - April 3; Easter Monday - April 6; Memorial Day - Monday, May 25; Independence Day - Friday, July 3; and Labor Day - Monday, Sept. 7.

Water bill payment dates

The remaining quarterly water bill due date this year is Wednesday, Nov. 5. In 2026, due dates are Thursday, Feb. 5; Tuesday, May 5; Wednesday, Aug. 5; and Thursday, Nov. 5. A late fee will be assessed if not paid by these dates.

Compost site open for your convenience

The Pine Grove Borough compost site is a well-known spot for residents to dispose of grass, garden waste, and leaves as we prepare for winter.

The site is now open 24/7. Borough residents must come to the Borough Office to fill out an application and get an access code for the compost gate system. You will need your vehicle information along with your license plate number in order to obtain a compost permit. The fee is \$30 (cash or check). Borough office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Note: trespassers and unauthorized users will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Krammes Plumbing & Hydronic Heating

P.O. Box 12 • Pine Grove, PA 17963



**Coal / Oil
Fired Boiler
Repairs &
Servicing**

•

**New
Installations**

•

**Plumbing
Servicework**

•

**Call
570-640-6090**



Thompson
Social Services

Thompson Social Services is a local non-profit agency providing Representative Payee Services to people who receive Social Security benefits.

We act on your behalf... receiving your SSI and Social Security funds and then paying your recurring monthly rent, utilities and other bills when received and authorized by you.

In addition, we can often help deal with landlords, creditors, attorneys and the Social Security Administration.

Our mission is to fill the gaps in social services with a focus on quality of life for people in Pennsylvania.

Want to find out more?

Visit our website... stop in... or give us a call!

39 S. Tulpehocken St. • Pine Grove, Pa 17963

Ph: 570-617-4944 EXT 2 Fax: 570-915-6199

<https://thompsonsocialservices.com>

Rave Mobile's Smart911 – Critical Info Fast!

Rave Mobile's "Smart911" is a communication service that allows the Pine Grove Borough to notify residents quickly and efficiently in the event of an emergency or need to convey critical information.

The PA Department of Environmental Protection mandated all water systems are required to notify customers quickly when a situation with the water system arises. From time to time, we have had to contact our customers when our water system was compromised and issue a Boil Water Advisory.

Pine Grove Borough has contracted with Rave Mobile's Smart911 to contact our customers and residents. Smart911 is a Public Notification System using cutting-edge technology to swiftly contact our residents via telephone or e-mail. Now when a Boil Water

Advisory is necessary, or any time the Borough needs to be in contact with its residents such as a declared snow emergency, we can do so in a matter of minutes. This would also include other states of emergency, disaster announcements, road closures, parking restrictions, and other announcements as necessary.

We need your help!

In order to make Smart911 work, information regarding you, including your address, phone number, cell phone number, e-mail address, and your preferred method of notification is necessary. If you were registered previously with Swiftreach, your information has been transferred to the Smart911 system. If you have not sent this to date, complete the form and mail it in, deliver in person, call or e-mail your info today! Or, go to the Borough website and click on the Smart911 tab.

Mail or deliver to Pine Grove Borough; One Snyder Avenue; Pine Grove, PA 17963. You can also call 570-345-3555 with the information or e-mail us at pgborough@comcast.net.

Property owners with apartments should provide information regarding their tenants. Tenants should also complete the form to ensure optimum notification.

Pine Grove Borough • Water Customer Information System

Contact Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

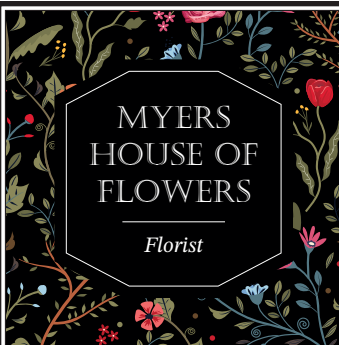
Please check the line for your preferred method of notification.

Primary Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Please return the information sheet to the borough office at
Pine Grove Borough: One Snyder Avenue, Pine Grove



Where Every Occasion Blooms!

**Call to Order
717-376-7682**

**Or Stop In to See Us
59 S. Tulpehocken St.
Pine Grove**

**Fresh, beautiful arrangements
for every moment in life...**

From everyday bouquets to weddings, funerals, church alter pieces, and everything in between.

We've got you covered!

- Custom floral arrangements & mixed vases
- Balloons, gifts & flower subscriptions
- Flower cart rental for events
- Public & private floral design classes
- Wedding consultations & sympathy tributes
- Delivery with photo confirmation

Elegant design at reasonable prices.

Family-owned, with a personal touch

Make life beautiful—one bloom at a time!



FREE Rx DELIVERY!



**PINE GROVE
PHARMACY**

ALL TOGETHER HEALTHY

- Caring Professionals Who Listen
- Medication Synchronizing
- Special Medication Packaging
- Compounding Specialists
- Diabetic Supplies
- Wellness Products

570-345-4422

10 East Pottsville Street, Pine Grove, PA 17963
pinegroverx@gmail.com • PineGrovePharmacy.com

**LOCAL
 POSTAL CUSTOMER**

JROTC Class Earns “Honor Unit With Distinction”

Every three years the U.S. Army requires each Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp to be evaluated. Last school year, Pine Grove JROTC went through that academic evaluation and scored a 99% proficiency. Less than 10% of the units qualify with a 95% rating and fewer than 1% qualify with a 99% rating.

The amount of preparation is immense. The students were assessed in all facets of the curriculum, including a Continuous Improvement Project, a Service Learning Project and raw knowledge of the curriculum. Lieutenant Colonel (Retired), Matt Farson, and Brigade Inspector Anthony Ivey worked with these students in this elective course at Pine Grove Area School District.

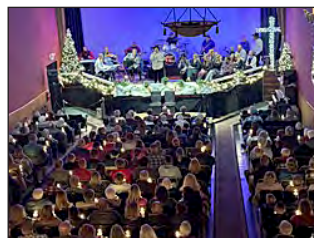
HUD status is Honor Unit with Distinction and is awarded to units who score 95% or higher on their JROTC Program of Accreditation.



**3 Shows... Saturday, Dec. 6 – 6 p.m.
 Sunday, Dec. 7 – 2 p.m. & Sunday, Dec. 7 – 7 p.m.**

Kick off the holiday season – Enjoy a Country-style Christmas Concert with a Nashville sound in the magical ambience of the Historic Pine Grove Theater. The 2024 concerts saw nearly 1000 people attend these three concerts. Some tickets are already reserved for 2025. There will be something for everyone, even a visit from Santa Claus himself.

EARLY RESERVATIONS ARE STRONGLY SUGGESTED!
 Don't wait to reserve your seats! Prepurchase well in advance to guarantee seating.



FEATURED PERFORMERS

- Mended Heart • Butch Flory
- Seeger Family • Doug Tretter • Dan Clark
- Eileen Hoffman • Kirk Wolfe Family
- Jared & Katie Wehry • Cheryl Haas
- Daphne & Graham Pinto • Scott Warner
- Levi Seigfried • Crystal High
- Tom Hartman • Gracye Johnson
- Tiff Maley Ina • Dale Cresswell
- Howard Taylor • Emily High • And More!

A COUNTRY CHRISTMAS CONCERT & CELEBRATION RESERVATION FORM

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____

Email: _____
 Please Reserve the Following Seats for the Indicated Performance:
 12/06/2025 6:00 PM # SEATS _____ \$15 Per Seat Thru 10/31/25
 12/07/2025 2:00 PM # SEATS _____ \$20 Per Seat From 11/01/25
 12/07/2025 7:00 PM. # SEATS _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED _____
 Until Sold Out!

MAIL CHECK AND RESERVATION FORM TO PG CHRISTMAS CONCERT / 83 HARRIS AVE. / PINE GROVE PA. / 17963
 QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION – CALL 570-691-6673