



**MAYOR'S REPORT TO MEMBERS OF
COUNCIL, STAFF, AND OUR CITIZENS
PRESENTED JANUARY 6, 2020**

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I do hope our citizens and business owners enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and wish everyone good health in 2020.

Affirming Manager Lorraine's report, I appreciate PennDot's cooperation in mounting the truck restriction signs entering South Washington street in the Borough and Antrim Township. Enforcement by Greencastle Police will occur in the Borough. Antrim Township is notifying Pa. State Police and the industrial facilities south of the Borough regarding the new vehicle code enforcement restrictions. It is important that Greencastle continues to work with Antrim Township as many properties are for sale that border the Borough that will bring additional development and regional community impacts.



Drug addiction continues to impact our community and our nation. Even though heroin overdose deaths are declining the impact continues to challenge individuals, families, and society. Today is the second anniversary of the death of three-year-old Logan Starliper who died in an East Baltimore Street apartment as illegal drugs were found in her system at the hands of very irresponsible adults. Nine people have been arrested in conjunction with Logan's death...from Franklin County and from Connecticut.

Drug dependency usually begins with alcohol abuse and marijuana use as gateways activities. Education and pro-active holistic community involvement can certainly save lives and the heart ache of this scourge.

A reminder that we are in the Winter season and snow fall will ultimately occur. Residents are encouraged to remove snow and ice from sidewalks in conformance with the Borough ordinance.

Reference the continued Emergency Management Coordinator vacancy, I am discussing the position with two very qualified candidates. I'll work with Lorraine if they affirm their interests.

As a Tree City USA community, the Arbor Day Foundation newsletter states that now is a good time to plan Spring tree plantings.

As I did last Fall, After you receive a waiver response regarding MS4 regulations from the Pa. Dept. of Environmental Protection, I encourage Borough Council to re-visit Resolution 2019-03 where a "delinquency schedule became effective Sept. 15, 2019 where our Water Authority was leveraged to turn off customers' water if their storm water utility fees were unpaid. In December, I heard from two businesses that employs many people where their water was nearly shut off due to partial payment of their utility bills.

For meritorious service over the past 12 months I am issuing Mayoral Commendations and Citations to several Greencastle police officers; some of which were injured in the line of duty while affecting criminal arrests. My congratulations to Officers Kevin Creager, Robert Petrunak, Jim Bradley, Eric Kamoie, and Chief John Phillippy and all members of the Department for protecting our citizens and visitors.

Respectfully submitted,

Ben Thomas, Jr.

