The Borough of
Cressona News

Vol. 2, No. 2 | OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CRESSONA BOROUGH, PA | Fall & Winter 2026/2027

Active Cressona Cares Committee Helps Build Community Energy!

America250 Recap; Coming Holiday Events Aplenty!

Cressona celebrated America250

From the train car to the hot rods, you couldn't have asked for a better day, held this past July 18th. Even with storms threatening early on, our community showed up with incredible spirit and support. The turnout of people, on their porches cheering the runners or tailgating along Front Street, enjoyed the sights and the excitement. It proved once again why Cressona is so special!

None of it would have been possible without our local businesses. Bill Metzinger generously donated his lot for the food trucks and vendors, giving everyone a perfect place to gather and enjoy the day.

Tucker Fisher, of Bones Hot Rod Bar & Grill, and his staff put on an outstanding car and motorcycle show that drew crowds all afternoon. Tucker also made it possible to have live music from his second floor balcony, filling the street with energy and celebration from morning to night.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to Kelsea Apparel and Accessories for their generous donation, allowing use of their store and the parking lot for our basket raffle. In addition… Cressona Agway, the Goodwill Fire Company and Fire Police, the Cressona Legion, and Bethany Church all graciously opened their doors so vendors could move inside during the threatening weather. Their support kept the day running smoothly and safely.

We are deeply grateful for the tireless efforts of the Cressona Cares Committee and our Public Works Department that set up tents, prepared the grounds, and ensured every piece of infrastructure was ready. Their hard work behind the scenes made the event shine.

The event raised $10,000! The money was donated

– *Continued on Page 2*

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TUES., OCT. 6 – Cressona Pool Study Open House, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Goodwill Fire Co. Community Room

MON., OCT. 12 – COLUMBUS DAY

SUN., OCT. 25 – Trunk-or-Treat, 4 to 6 p.m.; Groups & Businesses, please register thru Borough Hall or online

SAT., OCT. 31 – Cressona Trick-or-Treat, 6 to 8 p.m.; porch lights are an indication youngsters, 12 years old and younger, will be welcomed.

TUES., NOV. 3 – ELECTION DAY

SAT., NOV. 21 – Cressona Fall Dash 5K, 10 a.m.; register at ***runsignup.com/Race/PA/Cressona/Dash4 Splash***

THURS. THRU MONDAY, NOV. 26-30–THANKSGIVING!

SAT., NOV. 28 – Splash Back to Willow Lake Years Dance, 4 p.m.; tickets available at Borough Hall or Facebook

FRI., DEC. 4 – Christmas in Cressona, 5 p.m; featuring baby goat snuggles, smores by the fire, and more!

THURS. & FRI., DEC. 24-25–MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THURS., DEC. 31 & FRI., JAN 1–HAPPY NEW YEAR 2027!

Cressona Borough Hall and Borough Operations will be closed during the Columbus Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year holidays; Borough Hall will have limited hours between Christmas and New Years.



Fall Splash Dash & Splash Back to Willow Lake Dance

– *Continued from Page 1*

to the Pool Capital Campaign. We hope our residents enjoyed the day as much as we, the Committee, did coordinating it.

Next year's block party will be held on Sat., July 17, as we come together once again… this time will celebrate Cressona's founding of 170 years past!

Splash Dash 5K raised $4000

The inaugural Splash Dash 2.5-Mile Fun Run/Walk brought 92 participants to Cressona, with runners and walkers representing Cressona, Schuylkill Haven, Orwigsburg, Auburn, Pottsville and surrounding communities. The event even attracted participants from New Jersey and Florida.

Together, those runners and walkers did much more than cover 2-1/2 miles.

The Splash Dash and additional donations from participants raised approximately $4,000 for the Cressona Community Pool.

The success of the Splash Dash helps build momentum for the Cressona Cares Committee's "Restore the Splash" capital campaign to restore the Cressona Community Pool and recreation complex.

Fall Splash Dash 5K on Sat., Nov. 21

And that momentum isn't stopping. On Saturday, Nov. 21, Cressona Cares will invite the community to "lace-up again" for the Fall Dash (run or walk) to again support the pool project.

The Fall Dash 5K will be the second race in the 2026 Schuylkill Dash Through the Holidays 5K Series, a new collaboration bringing three Schuylkill County races together for one fun fall-and-holiday challenge.

The Spooky Schuylkill 5K kicks off the series on Saturday, Oct. 31, continues with Cressona's Fall Splash Dash, and wraps up with the Santa Run 5K on Saturday, Dec. 5 in Pine Grove.

Runners register for each race individually, but those who complete all three races will earn a special Schuylkill Dash series, wooden medal.

"Splash Back" to Willow Lake Years… Dance!

Shelly Moyer, daughter of Tom & Dorothy Smith who managed Willow Lake in its heyday, wrote the following and is coordinating the benefit dance on Sat., Nov. 28.

Work at Willow Lake began at age five for me, picking up garbage on the lawn at the end of the day. From there, my responsibilities evolved to include lifeguarding, working concessions and running the roller rink - often seven days each week.

Dances, featuring The Jordan Brothers, were also held there for more than seventeen years. Willow Lake was my life until the age of twenty-one, when my grandfather sold the business.

It was a struggle to work so much at such a young age while all my friends were having fun around me. However, now that I am older, not a week goes by without running into someone who has a special memory about Willow Lake. I feel so much joy knowing how much it meant to so many people.

For eight years now, I've been working to honor my father's wish to write a book about the Lake. It was not an easy task, but it is finally going to print. I'm very excited to share my stories, memories from patrons, photographs, and the rich history of "The Lake" with those who remember and those who have heard the memories of others.

It has always been a pleasure driving by the Cressona Pool on a regular basis, and hearing the children's laughter, evoking Willow Lake memories. I was saddened by its closing.

That is why a Willow Lake reunion dance of sorts will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28 at the Goodwill Fire Co.; doors open at 3:30 p.m. All net proceeds from ticket sales and the sale of my book will go to support the Cressona Pool restoration. I have contacted Frank Jordan, who is more than happy to help and be part of this benefit.

A local band favorite "Another Side" and "Velveeta," a popular 1980s State College band known for playing PSU football games and Thon, will be featured.

To purchase my book, beginning in October, contact Shelly Moyer at 570-617-5226 or by email at *shellmoy@gmail.com.*

Dance tickets can be obtained at the Borough Office or through Events on Facebook/Cressona Cares/Splash Back to Willow Lake.

Girl Scout Troop 32835

Growing, Serving & Giving Back

It has been a busy and exciting summer for Girl Scout Troop 32835! Our girls have been learning, serving, exploring, and finding new ways to make a difference in the Cressona community.

Members continued caring for the Community Garden, helping to maintain the plants, harvest vegetables, and making it a welcome place for all.

Planning for next spring, we will be researching ways to improve our agricultural practices through companion planting, crop rotation, and adding more variety to the garden.

Exciting adventures greeted the girls this summer! At Edge of Adventure Camp, they tried new activities, built confidence, and made lasting memories. At Camp Hebron, the girls learned new skills, including horseback riding and kayaking.

Troop members were a key part of Cressona Community Night and helping with the Community Yard Sale & Bake Sale. Upcoming: the Fall Product Sale.

Our Cadettes have begun planning their Silver Award projects, focusing on making a lasting difference in Cressona.

We need our community

Our girls cannot do this alone! We seek community members, local businesses, and organizations willing to support Troop 32835 through monetary donations, supplies, or by sharing their time and expertise.

Thank you for your continued support!

– Jessica Hritzko, Troop Leader

"Restore the Splash" Capital Campaign Launches

Ideas Wanted! Take the Survey, Buy A Brick, Donate

Exciting things are happening as the Cressona Cares Committee prepares to officially launch Restore the Splash, the capital campaign to bring swimming and recreation back to the Cressona Community Pool and Recreation Complex.

For generations, the Cressona pool has been more than a place to swim. It has been a gathering place – where children learned to swim, families spent summer afternoons, friendships were made, and memories were created.

And while the pool sets in the heart of Cressona, this has never been just Cressona's pool. We want both **Cressona & Southern Schuylkill** at the table!

As planning continues, community input will be an important part of determining the future of the pool and recreation complex. A community pool study and feedback session will be held Tuesday, Oct. 6, from 6:30-to-8 p.m. at the Goodwill Fire House on S. Sillyman Street. The feasibility results will be discussed at the January 17 Cressona Borough Council meeting.

If you or your friends or family from a nearby community used the pool; might use a restored pool; or simply believes our region needs places like this, we want to hear from you.

SURVEY QR CODE

RSVP is not required to attend; but, in the meantime, complete the survey by scanning this QR code. Let us know your thoughts. It is important input to the study!

Cressona Is the Heart; But Southern Schuylkill Is Our Community

Families have come through those pool entry gates from Schuylkill Haven, Orwigsburg, Auburn, Pottsville, Friedensburg, New Ringgold and communities throughout southern Schuylkill County. In fact, attendance from the pool's last seasons tells an important story… the overwhelming majority of our pool families came from the surrounding region, not just Cressona.

That makes restoring the pool bigger than a Borough project. It is an opportunity to preserve and rebuild an affordable recreational resource for southern Schuylkill County – where families from neighboring communities can once again gather, swim, play and spend a summer afternoon close to home.

Cressona is the heart of the project, but the ripple reaches far beyond our Borough.

Donation promise jump-starts project

The restoration of the pool will be a major undertaking, with the total project expected to require an investment of more than $1 million. But we already have an incredible opportunity to get the campaign moving.

Miller Brothers Construction has pledged $100,000 to the project once our community raises the first $100,000.

Leave your mark; buy a brick

One of the first ways families, individuals, businesses and organizations can become part of Restore the Splash is through our Buy-a-Brick Campaign.

Personalized bricks will become a lasting part of the restored pool and recreation complex. Celebrate your family, honor or remember someone special, recognize a business or organization, commemorate childhood summers at the pool, or simply say, "We helped bring it back." A brick, up to three lines inscription, costs $150. Get a larger brick with up to six lines for $300.

BUY-A-BRICK / DONATE

Every gift creates a ripple

You don't have to purchase a brick to be part of Restore the Splash. A donation of any size matters. Please give what you are able! Throughout the coming months, there will be many ways to participate… community events, races, business sponsorships, fundraising activities, direct giving and opportunities to volunteer.

Reaching a goal of this size will take all of us – Cressona residents, neighboring communities, former pool families, local businesses, organizations and people who believe that affordable recreation is worth preserving.

The first wave starts with us! More than $1 million is a big goal; but we don't have to raise it all at once. We start with one donation… one brick, one business, one family, one community… then another community. And, the ripple keeps growing!

Property Care Reminders

Cressona's Codes & Property Maintenance Department asks all residents and property owners to work together to keep our town beautiful, safe, and enjoyable all year long.

Keep lawns mowed; control overgrowth of trees, shrubs, and plants from sidewalks and curbs; eradicate weeds; remove litter, debris, and inoperable equipment/items; sweep sidewalks and curb areas; remove debris from street gutters and storm drain entries.

Every resident and property owner plays an important role in our community's appearance and safety. Thank you for taking pride in your property and helping to keep Cressona a great place to live.

Cressona Borough
68 S Sillyman St
Cressona, PA 17929

PRSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM RETAIL

****ECRWSSEDDM****

LOCAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Official Matter
of Cressona Borough

Cressona Code Enforcement Offers Reminders for the Passing Seasons

Time to Clean-Up Outdoor Spaces • Prepare for Winter

For your convenience, we've compiled the most frequently used property codes along with additional helpful details for this time of year.

Property maintenance

IPMC 302.4 – Governs weed, grass, and plant growth. It requires property owners to maintain their property free from excessive weed, grass, and plant growth. Grass cannot exceed a height of six (6) inches and requires property owners to maintain the sidewalks and curbs. Fines start at $25 per incident.

Ordinance 151.38 - Trash cans are to be removed from the curb area following trash pick-up. The sidewalk and curb area is not a permitted storage area for your trash container.

Large Item Pickup: Our trash hauler will collect one large item per week per household. Some acceptable large items are mattresses, furniture, etc. If anything has not been collected by the end of the day, please contact Regina at Borough Hall.

Ordinance 91.015 – Motor Vehicle Nuisances – It is unlawful to store a vehicle unable to move under its own power, unlicensed, uninspected, and/or damaged vehicles on private property. Contact our Code Enforcement Officer for further details.

Ordinance 92.01 – Outdoor Burning – Cressona Borough does have a burning ordinance in place that must be adhered to for the protection of property and the residents of Cressona.

Leaf Pick-up – The Borough Crew will be picking up bagged leaves every Thursday during October and November, weather permitting. Property owners should notify Borough Hall where to pick up the leaf debris. Leaves must be bagged and put curbside… no more than 10 lbs. per bag. We do not pick up tree limbs or any branches.

Winter property maintenance

SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL (152.40) – The owner, occupant or tenant of every property is required to remove all snow and ice from all sidewalks within 24 hours after the same have ceased to fall.

UNLAWFUL DEPOSIT OF SNOW AND ICE (152.42) – No owner, occupant or tenant of any property in the Borough shall place snow or ice upon any Borough street or alley.

Questions regarding our ordinances can be addressed by contacting Code Enforcement Officer Mike Pontician at 570-990-2382; or, visit ***www.cressonaborough.com*** for more information.

Practice Fire Safety

Autumn brings changing leaves, crisp air, and a greater risk of house fires. Here are a few safety tips to enjoy a safe fall season.

1) Inspect/maintain heat systems! Have your heating systems professionally inspected and cleaned before use. Never leave space heaters unattended or operating while you are sleeping. If using a fireplace, have the chimney professionally inspected and cleaned annually.

2) Check/maintain smoke and carbon monoxide detecters! Install smoke alarms inside every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of your home. Test smoke alarms monthly. Replace the entire unit if it is over 10 years old.

4) Use candles and fall decorations safely! Opt for flameless, battery-operated candles or glow sticks instead of real candles.

Decorating Contests

Cressona residents are encouraged to decorate the exterior areas of the property where they live in the leading days to one or both of the upcoming holidays – Halloween and Christmas.

Details will be posted on the Cressona Cares Facebook page and the Cressona Borough website. Don't forget to register!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!

68 S Sillyman St., Cressona, PA 17929
https://cressonaborough.com • 570-385-2933