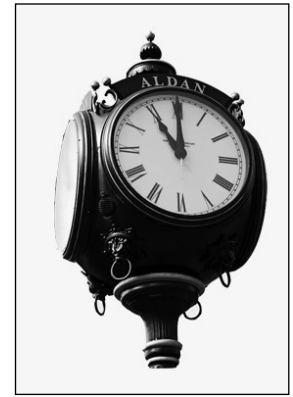


THE ALDAN CHRONICLE

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HISTORIC ELECTION RESULTS IN ALDAN

For the first time in Aldan Borough's 124 year history, Democrats were elected in contested races. On November 7, 2017 with 40% of registered borough voters participating, Michael Ceci was chosen as Judge of Election for the eastern precinct and Anna Jane Nielsen won as Majority Inspector of Election for the same precinct.

While Republican Mayor Carmen Maniaci was selected for a full term and Republican Council Members Mary Jo Corrigan, Joseph Connolly and Steve Maiden were reelected (Mr. Maiden won by only 2 votes over Democrat Harold Borders), the vote for tax collector between Democrat

Jerry Barber and Republican incumbent Thomas Morse was tied at 569 votes for each.

After the absentee ballots were reviewed Nov. 15 and the vote certified on Nov. 22 by the Delaware County Election Bureau and Board, the Aldan Tax Collector vote was officially tied. As per the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Election Code, on Tuesday, Nov. 28 a ballot draw of numbered balls from 1-16 was held at noon in the Delaware County Election Bureau. Since first initials of last names were used to select drawing order, Jerry Barber drew first, the #14. Mr. John McBlain, representing Mr. Morse drew #4. Then Mr.

Barber was officially declared winner of the election. Thus Mr. Barber becomes the first Democrat and the first minority elected to higher office in Aldan Borough History!

Mr. Barber, the Mayor and elected members of council were inducted on Tuesday night, Jan. 2 in the Reinl Recreation Building on Shisler Avenue. The Aldan Democratic Organization live-streamed the event and you can view the ceremony on our Facebook page.



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MEET YOUR NEW LOCAL TAX COLLECTOR



Jerry Barber, Aldan's new tax collector.

On Tuesday, January 2, 2018, Jerry Barber was sworn in as Aldan's first Democratic tax collector. The oath was administered by the Honorable Roxanne E. Covington of the Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas. A 16-year resident of Aldan, Jerry is the Director of General Accounting at Temple University.

Beginning his undergraduate

studies at Hampton University, Jerry obtained his Bachelors of Science Degree in Business Administration from Delaware State University and his MBA from Temple University's Fox School of Business.

Jerry and his wife, Marcella, live on Rively Avenue with their daughter Ciara. Jerry has been a long-time supporter of the Aldan Home & School Association, the ADO and the Penn Wood High School Band Boosters. He is currently serving as the treasurer of the Boosters.

"I look forward to working with the Delaware County & Aldan Borough Council to serve the residents of Aldan for the next four years. Thank you all for the opportunity."

Tax Collector Hours:

Mr. Barber has announced he will be collecting taxes on Tuesday evenings during the months of February and March at the Reinl Recreation Building at the end of Shisler Avenue from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The dates are:

- February 6
- February 13
- February 20
- February 27
- March 6
- March 13
- March 20
- March 27

The 2% discount period ends March 31.

2018 FEDERAL/STATE ELECTIONS

Even as our new elected Democratic officials are sworn in after a historic 2017 for Aldan and Delaware County, the 2018 elections are upon us. The May 15th primary will feature the reelection campaigns of Democrats US Senator Bob Casey, Jr, Governor Tom Wolf and Lt Governor Mike Stack. Also seeking reelection are Republican State Senator 26th District Tom McGarrigle and State Representative 163rd District Jamie Santora.

Republican US Congressman 7th District Patrick Meehan will not be seeking reelection.

While neither Senator Casey

nor Governor Wolf have opposition for the primary, Lt Governor Stack has five declared opponents and there are six declared Democratic candidates for the 7th Congress District.

The 26th Senate District has two declared candidates: Tim Kearney, an architect and current Mayor of Swarthmore Borough, and Tanner Rouse, a former Assistant District Attorney in the City of Philadelphia and son of the late developer Willard Rouse. Running for 163rd District State Representative is Mike Zabel, an attorney, Drexel Hill resident and former teacher at St Joseph Prep. (To read more about Mike see the article on

page 3 of this newsletter).

Also on the primary ballot will be local committee members (2 per precinct) for the Aldan Democratic Organization and 11 positions for Democratic State Committee representing Delaware County Democrats at the Democratic state party meetings held three times a year. If you are interested in any of these committee positions, please contact us at aldandemocrats@gmail.com or call/text 610-675-6226. (See the ADO Facebook page for links to more information on the Democratic candidates.)

2017 DELAWARE COUNTY DEMOCRATS SWEEP COURTHOUSE

For the first time since 1980 and the enactment of the Delaware County Home Rule Charter, there is Democratic representation on the Delaware County Council. Brian Zidek and Kevin Madden won the two seats open for election in 2017. The Republicans still have a majority on the five-member Council and Aldan Republican leader and incumbent Council Member John McBlain was unanimously elected by his peers to

serve as Chair of the Council for the next two years.

For the first time since the 1930s when Nathan P. Pechin from Radnor was elected as Sheriff of Delaware County, Democratic candidates won the "Row Offices". On January 2, 2018, the following Democrats were

inducted into office: Jerry Sanders, Jr as Sheriff, Mary Walk as Register of Wills and Joanne Phillips as Controller. The

only countywide position won by a Republican on Election Day 2017 was Delaware County Court of Common Pleas Judge, won by former District Attorney Jack Whelan.



l. to r. Kevin Madden and Brian Zidek

THE GENEROSITY OF ALDAN RESIDENTS

During the holiday season Aldan residents displayed their generosity in several ways.

Aldan Boy and Cub Scout Troop 2 collected 3,000 canned goods during the Thanksgiving food drive. All the goods went to local pantries including Aldan Union Church and Blessed Mary Virgin Church in Darby. To join the scout troop call 610-259-8010 or visit their Facebook page.

Aldan Memorial Post 1000 American Legion delivered over 2,500 letters from Aldan residents to active duty service personnel, to Coast Guard cadets in training in Cape May, and to veterans in retirement centers. Also helping in the effort were students at Aldan Elementary School and Primos Elementary School. Service members wishing to join the Legion can contact them at 610-623-9566 or mail@aldanlegion.org.

The Legion also hosted their annual Christmas pancake breakfast and Sarge's Bazaar on Saturday December 9th in the post home at 106 Bonsall Avenue. More than 100 residents enjoyed pancakes, eggs cooked to order, ham, bacon, sausage, coffee, juices, bagels and French toast, all for only \$5.00. The next breakfast is scheduled for Easter season on Saturday, March 24, 2018 from 0800 to 1100 hours at the post home. The Easter Bunny is scheduled to appear.

MIKE ZABEL, STATE HOUSE CANDIDATE 163RD DISTRICT

Local litigator and lifelong Delco resident Mike Zabel wants to see change in Harrisburg—and he’s running in the 2018 Democratic primary for the 163rd legislative district to make it happen.

Zabel kicked off his campaign in December 2017, noting, “government has gone crazy, and it’s time to fix it.” He pledges to fight for local residents in Pennsylvania’s House of Representatives as someone who is “not beholden to any special interests.”

Zabel is a former assistant district attorney in Philadelphia who lives in Drexel Hill with his wife and two children. He attended St. Joe’s Prep, College of the Holy Cross, Indiana

University, and Temple University Beasley School of Law. He also spent seven years teaching high-school language classes.

Zabel says, “The Republican supermajority in Pennsylvania House of Representatives is out of touch and out of control. They run up our debt, constantly try to cut benefits for Delaware County, and pursue extremist legislation. Jamie Santora is just a faithful cog in that Republican machine. Delaware County needs a



Mike Zabel, candidate for PA 163rd Legislative District.

strong, independent voice in the legislature. That’s what I’ll be.”

Santora, Aldan’s elected representative in the PA House since 2015, has earned low ratings for his voting record from the Pennsylvania ACLU and from a coalition of Pennsylvania environmental protection organizations. Most recently,

Santora voted for an unconstitutional ban on abortion that would have been the most restrictive in the nation, and which Governor Tom Wolf vetoed.

ALDAN RECYCLING UPDATE

Due to a change in process at the recycling centers, plastic bags are no longer being accepted on Recycling Wednesdays. Plastic grocery bags may be recycled at the Giant food market on Oak Avenue. Plastic garbage bags, dark or clear, cannot be used for collecting and disposing of recyclable

material. Paper bags are acceptable. All recycled material should be placed in paper bags or cardboard boxes or placed in the blue recycling bins from the borough. Call 610-626-3554 to get a sticker to place on other trash cans used for recycling.



We at the Aldan Democratic Organization are always interested in hearing from the residents of the borough about their concerns and wishes. Please email aldandemocrats@gmail.com or text/call 610-675-6226 so we can better understand the issues most important to you!

EDITORIAL: THE SHORT RETIREMENT OF PRESIDENT SHORT

On December 13 Aldan Borough Council President Harry Short (R) presided over presumably his last meeting of the Council after many years. Earlier, in March, Mr. Short and Mayor James Hopely (R) and Council Member Peggy Rankin (R) did not file for reelection.

Then at the March Aldan Borough Council meeting, Mayor Hopely, Council Member Rankin and Treasurer Terry Quinn (R) officially resigned, beginning a series of events that would bring Mr. Short out of his brief retirement.

At the April Aldan Borough Council meeting, Joseph Blackburn, Jr. (R) was appointed Mayor (he was seeking election as Mayor), Joseph Connolly (R) was appointed to Council (he was seeking election to Council) and former Council Member Rankin was appointed as Treasurer.

At the September Council

meeting, Mayor Blackburn resigned due to a promotion at PECO which precluded him from serving in an elected position.

At a special meeting held just eight days later, although state law allows thirty days to fill a vacancy, Council Member Carmen Maniaci (R) was appointed Mayor as he resigned his council post. Twenty days later at the October 11th Council meeting, Steve Maiden (R) (he was seeking election to Council) was appointed to finish the term vacated by now Mayor Maniaci.

On November 7, all Republican candidates won election to Mayor and Council; although, Mr. Maiden defeated Harold Borders (D) by only two votes. The election left one position open at the reorganization meeting on January 2 since Mr. Maiden resigned his two year seat (finishing Mayor Maniaci’s council term) to accept his four year position. But who would fill Mr. Maiden’s two year seat?

To the rescue rode Mr. Harry Short, who returned to the Aldan Borough Council that same evening. He was voted in unanimously to fill the two year term and moments later voted in unanimously as President of Council.

No mention was made of; Mr. Border’s request sent to the Council prior to their December caucus and general meetings to be considered for the position, a committee to review applicants for the position, as was established for the vacancies in 2017 for Mayor and Council, and the pending vacancy at the December caucus or general meeting.

Since municipal elections were over, the “Republicans for Aldan” returned to their practice of filling municipal offices from their exclusive club.

Everything old is new again. Mr. Short is once again President of Council.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION EVENT

**HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AWARENESS EVENT**

GUEST SPEAKER:

Hugh Organ, Associate Executive Director, Covenant House PA

WHEN:

Sunday, February 11, 2018 from 1:00 -3:00 p.m.

WHERE:

American Legion Post #1000, 106 Bonsall Avenue, Aldan, PA



ANYONE CAN ATTEND THIS EVENT

Please RSVP to aldandemocrats@gmail.com or 610-675-6226 (text/call)
by Friday, February 9, 2018 (seating is limited).

There is no charge for this event but we ask that you bring a donation of toiletries (travel size toothpaste, mouthwash, hand soap, new toothbrush) or socks or underwear for the personal hygiene packets that Covenant House uses in its outreach to homeless youth in our area.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

Begin Circulating Petitions

for ballot access for Primary Election Day
Tuesday, February 13, 2018
(for congress, Tuesday 27,2018)



If you are interested in signing petitions for Democratic candidates, call Dan at 610-675-6226.

Last day to file petitions is March 6, 2018
(for congress, March 20, 2018)

Aldan Memorial Post 1000, American Legion

**Pancake Breakfast
with the Easter Bunny**

At the Legion Building
104 Bonsall Avenue

8:00 - 11:30 a.m.
on Saturday March 24, 2018



Aldan Boosters' Easter Egg Hunt

At the Ball Fields
behind Legion Building
on Bonsall Avenue
Saturday, March 24 at Noon
(Rain date: March 31, 2018)



Primary Election Day

Tuesday, May 15, 2018

Polls are open
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Aldan Elementary
School

