# Aldan Democratic Organization THE ALDAN CHRONICLE

#### VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2 SUMMER 2023 WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER ALDAN

We, the Democratic candidates for Borough Council, believe a government works best when ALL citizens are consulted and informed about what happens in their town.

Since you elected us in 2019, we've made it easier to be a part of Borough Council meetings by posting agendas, proposed ordinances and resolutions on our website and by sharing the meetings live on Zoom. We've revived the Planning Commission and are currently seeking applications from residents to expand and revive other community boards. We've published quarterly newsletters and are in the process of



Democratic Borough Council Candidates (L to R): Daniel Procopio, Suzanne Kelley, Joyce Lambert, Harold "Buddy" Borders



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rolling out a mass notification system through text, email and text-to-speech for communication with residents. We have continually pursued grants from many sources to improve Borough infrastructure. The grants we've obtained include money for improvements to the fields at the elementary school, a Borough-wide survey and improvement plan for our parks, stormwater drainage improvements along Magnolia Avenue, an expansion of the municipal building, and new LED streetlights.

We intend to continue these initiatives and expand resident participation in Aldan Borough Boards and Commissions. We will prioritize the hiring of a new Police Chief and improved community policing with strong oversight. We will continue to seek grants for community improvements, and the expansion of our parks and recreation opportunities. We will continue to listen to the residents of Aldan Borough, seek your input and with your help keep Aldan Borough an inclusive community and a great place to live.

#### On Tuesday, November 7, 2023, you <u>will</u> have a voice. Please join us in voting Democrat for a transparent and truly representative Aldan Borough Council.

## 4TH OF JULY PARADE







The Aldan Chronicle

#### ALDAN PARKS & RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE

This summer, the Borough of Aldan began the process of developing a new Parks & Recreation Master Plan – and they still need your help to define a vision for the future!

The master plan is being led by the Borough in partnership with Omnes (www.omnes.studio), a landscape architecture and planning firm known for bringing the voices and visions of communities to fruition. Omnes is guiding the 6-month planning process, which includes a number of opportunities for Aldan residents to provide input that will directly shape the future of parks, recreation, and open space in the Borough.

An initial Parks & Recreation Survey for the project sought public feedback across four weeks in June and July, garnering 331 responses about the state of parks and recreation in Aldan. The survey asked residents about existing and potential amenities, and to share opinions about topics ranging from park usage & safety to connectivity & accessibility. Nearly half of respondents reported that they visit an Aldan park on an at-least-weekly basis, reflecting the important role of green and open space in borough life. Community events, instructional classes, and youth-focused programming were among the top-rated potential activities that residents mentioned wanting to see more of in Aldan. And of potential facilities and amenities, some of the strongest interest was in the creation of community gardens, with 69% of respondents in support.

View the full survey results – along with the results of the July 4th event's "dot-voting" pop-up – now at <u>www.aldan-boro.org</u>.

Omnes is now developing concepts for park and open space improvements based on this community feedback, and will present initial ideas at a **Public Meeting on Monday, September 18th at 7:30pm at the McBlain Community Center at 210 Shisler Ave., or join the meeting online via Zoom at the same time at this link:** <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87888768430.</u> You can also share your ideas directly with the planning team by emailing: info@omnes.studio.

### WILLIAM PENN SCHOOL DISTRICT WINS ENERGY GRANT

The William Penn School District was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy to receive a grant of \$7.2M as part of their Renew America's Schools initiative. There were over 1,000 applications from school districts across 48 states, and WPSD was one of only 24 recipients selected to receive this opportunity - and the only district in Pennsylvania!

This grant will fund much needed, high-efficiency upgrades at the Ninth Grade Academy campus which is located at 600 Cypress Street in Yeadon. Built in 1947, the school building needs many repairs and new equipment, and the district will now be able to make some big changes such as upgrading the HVAC system, installing a Building Automation System to provide controlled heating and cooling, and improving the lighting system.

The Renew America's Schools grant program is funded by President Biden's Bipartisan Infrastructure Law that aims to help school communities make energy upgrades that lower utility costs, improve indoor air quality, and foster healthier learning environments.

#### VOLUME 10, ISSUE 2

## OUR DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATES ON THE BALLOT ON NOV. 7



**Daniel Procopio** For Borough Council

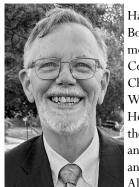
Daniel Procopio is our current Borough Council President and has worked to improve communication with Aldan residents. He was born and raised in Aldan and is a member of multiple civic organizations.



Joyce Lambert For Borough Council

Joyce Lambert is our current Borough Council Vice-President and the Chair of the Public Safety Committee. She organized Aldan's first ever Black History Month event and has been an Aldan resident

for over 10 years.



**Harold Borders** For Borough Council

Harold "Buddy" Borders is a current member of Borough Council and is the Chair of the Public Works Committee. He is a member of the Aldan Boosters and Town Watch and has been an Aldan resident for over 15 years.

Other Democrats on the ballot on Tuesday November 7th:

Jack Stollsteimer District Attorney Monica Taylor County Council Christine Reuther County Council Elaine Schaefer County Council Rachel Ezzell Berry Court of Common Pleas

For more info visit: <u>http://</u> <u>www.delcodems.com/democratic-</u> <u>candidates/</u>



Suzanne Kelley For Borough Council

Suzanne Kelley is currently the Emergency Management Coordinator for Aldan and a member of the Aldan Planning Commission. She has been an Aldan resident for over 20 years and works



Wadiya Ivery For William Penn School District Director

Wadiya Ivery is the current Vice-President of the School Board of the William Penn School District. She has over 20 years of teaching experience and has lived in Aldan for more than 20 years.

#### THANK YOU CHIEF COPPOLA

as a realtor.

On June 30, 2023, Aldan Police Chief Ken Coppola served his last day as a public servant after 50 years of police work. A lifelong Aldan resident, Coppola started his career as a dispatch operator for Lansdowne Police Department soon after graduating from Lansdowne-Aldan High School. In 1974, he was hired as a part-time officer in Aldan and two years later was hired full time. In 1991, Coppola's professionalism and leadership skills were recognized by the borough council and he was promoted to Aldan Police Chief, a role in which he served for over 20 years.

He appreciated the opportunity to be able to help people in various circumstances. During his years of service, he and Marie raised two



children-son, Ken Jr, who currently serves as a Sergeant in the Aldan Police Department, and daughter, Lauren. They now also have two grandchildren, Bryant, 6, and Sydney, 19 months, and Coppola says that he looks forward to spending a lot more time with them now that he is retired.

The Aldan Democratic Organization joins the community in thanking Chief Coppola for his many years of service. Sergeant Steven Ziviello currently serves as Aldan Police Chief on an acting basis as the borough searches for a permanent chief.

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## STATE REPRESENTATIVE HEATHER BOYD UPDATE

At the May 16 primary election, Heather Boyd defeated Katie Ford in the special election for State Representative for the 163rd District, previously held by Mike Zabel. She won over 60% of the more than 15,000 votes cast.

On June 5th, Heather was sworn into office and immediately got to work. She co-sponsored her first piece of legislation - an increase in Property Tax Rent Rebates. This bill would increase the income limits to access this rebate, as well as increase the rebate maximum amount from \$650 to \$1000. She was also appointed to the Health Committee, the Labor and Industry Committee and the Fish and Game Committee.



For more information about State Rep. Boyd's work, go to <u>https://www.pahouse.com/boyd/</u> or visit the district office, located at 5248 Township Line Road Drexel Hill, PA 19026-4527 or call (484) 200-8262.

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- September 2, 9am-11am—Boy Scouts aluminum can collection, Providence Park (across the street from the Municipal Bldg.)
- September 6, 7:30pm—Council Caucus Meeting, Community Center
- September 7, 9am-12pm—Senior Expo sponsored by Sen. Kearny & Rep. Boyd, Drexelbrook Events Center, 4700 Drexelbrook Dr, Drexel Hill, PA 19026
- September 9, 9am-2pm—Hazardous Waste Disposal Event, 1600 Calcon Hook Rd., Sharon Hill, PA 19079, preregistration required at <u>https://www.delcoswa.org/household-hazardous-waste</u>
- September 18, 7:30pm—Parks Minigrant Public Meeting, Community Center
- September 20, 7:30pm—Borough Council Meeting, Community Center
- September 26, 9am-12pm—SEPTA Senior Key Card Signup Event, Municipal Bldg
- October 4, 7:30pm—Council Caucus Meeting, Community Center
- October 7, 9am-11am—Boy Scouts aluminum can collection, Municipal Bldg. parking lot
- October 14, 9am-2pm—Hazardous Waste Disposal Event, Upper Chichester Municipal Bldg, 8500 Furey Rd., Chichester, PA 19061, preregistration required at <u>https://</u> <u>www.delcoswa.org/household-hazardous-</u> <u>waste</u>
- October 18, 7:30pm—Borough Council Meeting, Community Center
- October 28, 10am-1pm—Drug Take Back Event, Municipal Bldg. parking lot
- November 1, 7:30pm—Council Caucus Meeting, Community Center
- November 7, 7am-8pm– Election Day, Aldan Elementary School

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