

ALDAN DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION

# THE ALDAN CHRONICLE

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## BLUE WAVE SWEEPS ALDAN AND DELAWARE COUNTY IN 2018



In November 2018, 65% of registered Aldan voters came to the polls for the midterm election, a recent turnout record. All Democratic candidates from Senator Bob Casey to State Representative Mike Zabel carried the borough.

Mike Zabel became the first Democrat to win election to the 163rd State House District since 1978 when Nick Micozzie (R) won. Before Mr. Micozzie the office was held by Aldan's Ted Doyle (D) who was first elected in 1972 and re-elected in 1974 and 1976.

Aldan, Clifton Heights, Darby Borough, Lansdowne, Yeadon and a part of Upper Darby comprised the district then. The registration was 2-1 Republican in those years. The current district is comprised of Aldan, Clifton Heights, part of Haverford

Township and a larger part of Upper Darby than in the 1970s.

Tim Kearney was the first Democrat since 1978 to win election to the 26<sup>th</sup> State



Senate District. Mr. Doyle coincidentally, ran for the 26th Senate District in 1978 (vacated by a Democrat who won in the 1974 Watergate blue tide) and was defeated.

Additionally, Delaware County elected Mary Gay Scanlon, its first Democratic Representative in Congress for the new 5<sup>th</sup> District since 1986 when Bob Edgar stepped down to run for the United States Senate.

Mary Gay Scanlon

also won the special election for the old 7<sup>th</sup> district to finish the term of disgraced Congressman Pat Meehan. She was sworn into office in late November 2018, thus gaining seniority over the 39 other newly elected Democratic members of Congress.

Two years ago, the State House delegation from Districts wholly in Delaware County had only three Democrats and six Republicans. After the January 1, 2019 swearing-in ceremony in Harrisburg, the delegation has seven Democrats and only two Republicans. In the State Senate, of the four Districts wholly or partially in Delaware County, the delegation has three Democrats and only one Republican.

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## ALDAN DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION'S CANDIDATE SEARCH

2019 is another municipal election year. In Aldan, there will be openings for 4 members of Borough Council, a School Board Director and a Magisterial District Judge. The Aldan Democratic Organization is seeking candidates for all positions.

The District Judge position is a six-year elected term and also covers the borough of Clifton Heights and the Upper Darby 2<sup>nd</sup> District (Penn Pines, Penn Manor, Roselawn and Primos/Secane). A candidate for the position does not have to be an attorney, but a non-attorney must

pass a course and exam to serve. The District Judge serves as a court of first appearance for criminal and civil violations.

The School Board Director serves as Aldan Borough's representative on the William Penn School Board for a four-year term. The Board also has members from the boroughs of Colwyn, Darby, East Lansdowne, Lansdowne and Yeadon. It is responsible for the education policy and schooling of 5,500 students from kindergarten to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. The district has an annual budget of over \$90 million.

There are 4 seats on the ballot for

the 7-member Aldan Borough Council. The Council is responsible for police protection, trash and snow removal, recreation facilities, sanitary and storm water systems, code enforcement, municipal buildings and Aldan's parks and historical facilities. The council oversees a \$2.5 million budget, and the terms are for 4 years.

Interested individuals should contact Chairman Michael Ceci by January 30, 2019 at 610-626-6074 or by email at [aldandemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:aldandemocrats@gmail.com).

## TAX COLLECTOR HOURS

Aldan Tax Collector, Mr. Jerry Barber has announced he will be collecting taxes on Tuesday evenings during the months of February and March in the Reintl Recreation Building at the end of Shisler Avenue from 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The dates are: February 5, 12, 19, 26 and March 5, 12.

For the last two weeks in March, the hours are from 7:00 to 8:00 PM in the Reintl Recreation building at the end of Shisler Avenue on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

The dates are: March 18-19-20 and March 25-26-27.

Remember, the 2% discount period ends March 31st!



## ALDAN BOROUGH COUNCIL HIRES FIRST FEMALE OFFICER

At the Wednesday evening January 16, 2019 Aldan Borough Council meeting, the first female police officer in borough history was hired. Kelly Heist grew up in Drexel Hill and now lives in Glen Mills.

Officer Heist holds an Associates Degree in Applied Sciences from Delaware County Community College. She is a 2014 Graduate of Garnet Valley High School and a 2018 graduate from the Delaware County Municipal Police Academy.

The swearing-in of the new part-time officer was done by Mayor

Maniaci. The Police Chief Ken Coppola spoke of Officer Heist as a tough and able addition to the force.

Borough Council normally meets on the second Wednesday of the month at the Reintl Recreation Building at the end of Shisler Avenue starting at 7 PM.

The Aldan Borough Council Caucus meeting is normally held at the Aldan Municipal Building at the intersection of Providence Road and Clifton Avenue on the first Tuesday of the month, starting at 7:30 PM.

The meeting dates may change

if the first Tuesday falls on the day before the second Wednesday, as it will in April 2019.



*Police Officer Kelly Heist being sworn in as the newest officer of the Aldan Police Department.*

## ALDAN BOROUGH BUDGET 2019 - TRASH FEES TO INCREASE DUE TO RECYCLING

At the December 12, 2018 Aldan Borough Council meeting the Borough Council unanimously passed the 2019 budget that calls for a 23% increase in the Trash and Recycling fee. Residents will now pay \$205.74 per household instead of the \$167.12 they paid in 2018.

The reasons cited by Council are the increase in tipping (dumping) fees to \$53.00 per ton of trash and the uncertainty of the recycling market. The 2018 recycling contract was a flat fee for pick-up of the material each Wednesday. If there was a profit or loss to be made from the materials recycled that profit or loss was absorbed by the recycling company.

The first contracts for 2012 and 2013 were \$10,000.00 each year. Since 2013 the costs of the Wednesday pick-up

increased to over \$40,000.00 with the hauler absorbing any gain or loss for the recycled material.

China, who bought 67% of all cardboard and paper recycled in the United States, stopped taking recycling material from the United States last year. Since then, recycling centers have begun charging tipping fees for recycled material of up to \$67.00 per ton.

The 2019 recycling contract was awarded for only six months to see if and how the market settles. A new contract would go out for bid in May for approval in June for the rest of 2019. It may limit the materials recycled or the Borough's voluntary recycling may disappear.

The largest item in the \$2,278,243.70 General Fund Budget remains the Police Department at 56%

of the General Fund or \$1,272,852.00, a 3% increase over 2018. Reasons cited by Council are contractual increases in pay and benefits and the contractual obligation to pay salary and benefits to a full-time police officer who is still out on a non-work related disability from July of 2017. Thus part-time officers are used to cover that officer's normal shifts.

The sewer fee will remain at \$350.62 per household and the 2019 Sewer Fund Budget is \$712,769.80 the same amount as in 2018. Real estate taxes will also remain the same at 8.13 mills (\$8.13 for each \$1,000.00 of the home's assessment) per household.

The owner of an average Aldan home assessed at \$100,000 will pay the Borough \$1,369.36 for taxes and fees in 2019.

## CONTACT YOUR NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS



US Congresswoman Mary Gay Scanlon  
610-690-7323 (district office)

scanlon.house.gov  
www.facebook.com/RepMGS/



State Senator Tim Kearney  
District office hours listed on website  
717-787-1350 (Harrisburg office)

www.senatorkearney.com  
www.facebook.com/SenTimKearney



State Representative Mike Zabel  
5248 Township Line Road  
Drexel Hill, PA 19026

Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
717-783-8099 (Harrisburg office)  
www.pahouse.com/zabel  
www.facebook.com/RepZabel

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## BLUE WAVE SWEEPS ALDAN AND DELAWARE COUNTY IN 2018

In 1974, local Republican infighting, the Watergate scandal and Gerald Ford’s pardon of Richard Nixon helped send Democrat Bob Edgar to Congress and five Democrats to the State House and one Democrat to the State

Senate. By 1978, the Republicans had won back all six state legislative seats they had lost four years earlier. The dynamics are far different in 2019 than in 1978. Democrats now have

a 26,000-registered voter majority over Republicans instead of a two to one Republican edge. Time will show if the galvanized Democrat voters from 2017 and 2018 will continue their participation in 2019, a municipal election year.



**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](mailto:aldandemocrats@gmail.com) or call 610-626-6074 so we can better understand the issues most important to you!**

## EDITORIAL: ALDAN DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZATION STUNG BY STINGER’S RESTAURANT

In late October, the Aldan Democratic Organization (ADO) was seeking a location to have an after-election gathering, no matter the results of the election. Stinger’s Restaurant in the CVS/Price Rite plaza on Providence Road in Upper Darby was one location considered.

Upon initial inquiry about open dates, available food and pricing for 30 to 40 people, we were told there were three options: Stingers would cater a party off premise, provide on premise catering with an open bar at a per-head charge, or with us to order off the menu with a cash bar. We chose the third option, and after a discussion with the bartender and server, we reserved a date pending confirmation with the events manager.

The next day, the ADO’s event coordinator met with Stinger’s events manager and was told a different story from the previous night. Suddenly, the only options were off premise catering or a per-head open bar. The ADO event coordinator was confused to say the least. What had happened to the previous night’s agreement?

Finally, the truth was told. The Stingers events manager said that the restaurant holds a number of Republican fundraisers and it “would not be in their best interest to host our event.

Imagine our surprise. The last time we checked, Democrat money was the same color and had the same purchasing power as Republican money. As two members of the Aldan

borough council—both Republicans—told us on election day, not allowing the Democrats to spend money in the restaurant was “just stupid”. We wonder, is the ID check at the door for age or is it really for voter registration?



# M.L.K. Service Project

Aldan residents, help the Aldan Elementary School (K through 6<sup>th</sup> grade) and the Aldan Home & School Association on Saturday, January 26, 2019 starting at 10 AM with several projects.

We will assemble and install three benches for the school's new playground equipment. Also scheduled for that day (weather permitting) is repainting of the worn lines for the outdoor games of four square, hopscotch, etc. using stencils and paint provided by the School.

The School has "Book Swap" shelves in the lobby for students to take books home, with the goal of building home libraries. The focus is to get books into the students' hands to encourage reading. The "Swap" has worked so well, that the shelves are almost bare!

If you can help replenish the shelves with children's books of all age/ability ranges especially easier chapter books at the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade levels, please bring them to the school lobby on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to Noon. Gently used books are gladly accepted.



The Home & School Association is also looking for new or gently used board games and puzzles for the students to help their social skills. If you have one from your childhood or from your child's collection which is not now used, those can be dropped off at the School on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to Noon.

If you cannot come on January 26<sup>th</sup>, the school will have a box in the lobby where you can deliver the books or games through the end of February. Help the Home & School Association and the ADO to inspire the students at Aldan Elementary to continue their progress in reading social skills.



## UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:

### Begin Circulating Petitions

for ballot access for Primary Election Day.  
 Start date is Tuesday, February 19, 2019  
 If you are interested in signing petitions for Democratic candidates, call Mike at 610-626-6074 or email at [aldandemocrats@gmail.com](mailto:aldandemocrats@gmail.com)  
 Last day to file petitions is Tuesday, March 12, 2019.



### Save the Date!

The Aldan Democrats are hosting another event at the Broadway Bar & Grille on Sunday April 28. Expect raffles, food, local candidates and more!



Check out our updated website and sign up for our mailing list to keep up with this and other ADO events: [aldandemocrats.com](http://aldandemocrats.com)

### Aldan Boosters' Easter Egg Hunt

At the Ball Fields  
 behind Legion Building  
 on Bonsall Avenue  
 Saturday, April 13 at Noon



### Primary Election Day

Tuesday, May 21, 2019  
 Polls are open  
 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.  
 at Aldan Elementary School

