The ABC’s of Back to School for Parents

A. Ask questions. Ask your child about her day at school. Try to ask questions that encourage more than yes-or-no answers. What did you learn? Who did you sit with at lunch? What books did the teacher read to you?

B. Breakfast. Kids learn best when they’ve had a nutritious breakfast. Schools often remind parents of this on testing days, but it’s important for kids to get off to a good start every day.

C. Communication. Communicate with your child’s teacher. Share your concerns, what you feel is working well for your child, and ask for clarification if something is unclear.

D. Dates. Check dates of school holidays and plan accordingly. Calendars vary by district.

E. Effort. Praise your child’s best efforts. Not every child is a straight-A student. Let her know how proud you are when your child has truly done her best.

F. Friends. Get to know your child’s friends, and encourage relationships with those who are a positive influence.

G. Guidance counselor. Ask the school guidance counselor to talk with your child if she seems stressed by the birth of a sibling, the loss of a family member, or school relationships.

H. Homework. Provide a quiet place that is free of distractions, and help your child as needed, without doing the work for her.

I. Illness. Keep your child home if she is sick. Germs spread quickly in a classroom, and one sick child quickly becomes 25 sick children.

J. Jot a note. Be sure to send a written excuse when your child is absent. Too many unexcused absences can affect your child’s grades, or raise concerns of truancy.

K. Know the rules. Be familiar with school rules, policies and dress code. If the code of conduct isn’t sent home with your child, check for it online.

L. Listen. Really listen when your child talks to you. Put down the newspaper, turn off the TV, close the laptop and listen.

M. Make choices. With your child, choose which after-school activities are the most important. Kids need downtime, time for balanced meals and plenty of sleep.

N. Newsletter. Read school and classroom newsletters regularly.

O. Open House. Attend your school’s open house. Find out what’s going on in your child’s class, get to know the teacher and look over your child’s work samples.

P. Praise good behavior. It’s easy to take positive behavior for granted, but good kids need to be praised for following the rules.

Q. Quality time. Busy lives make quality family time hard to find. Eat dinner together, go for a walk or play a game with your child.
Continued from page 1

R. Read your child’s textbooks. Glance through the table of contents to find out what will be taught. Then talk about what your child is learning to help build excitement and make connections with the topics.
S. Smile. Mornings can be hectic, and a lot of kids bring this stress into the classroom with them. Try to send your child off with a smile and a hug to set a positive tone for the day.
T. Tardiness. In some schools, a certain number of tardy slips count as an unexcused absence. Be careful!
U. Update the teacher. If there are things going on that are affecting your child, let the teacher know. Kids react to separations, friends moving away and the loss of a pet. Teachers can offer extra sympathy, understanding and support.
V. Volunteer. If your schedule permits, offer to help in the classroom each week. If not, help from home by typing the class newsletter, cutting out art projects or planning class parties. A parent’s involvement in the classroom promotes success in school.
X. Don’t focus on the X’s. When graded work is returned, don’t focus on the problems that are marked wrong. Rather than saying, “You only missed 7,” say, “You got 93 right!”
Y. Yell and shout. Be your child’s biggest cheerleader when your child scores on the football field, participates in the science fair or recognizes all of the letters of the alphabet. Your praise is more precious than any prize or sticker from the teacher.
Z. Zip your mouth. When you disagree with the teacher, go to her directly to discuss your concerns. Venting these frustrations in front of your child will undermine the teacher in your child’s eyes, and cause confusion. Work out your differences privately.

SEWAGE COMMITTEE

The sewage committee wishes to keep you informed of the progress the borough has been making with the sewage issues facing each and every one of us.

As stated in past issues of “The Prospector”, we were overlooked or passed over for a grant from the State because of uncollected sewage funds.

We do not wish to embarrass or insult anyone but the taxpayers need to know why their sewage bills were increased and why they may need to be increased again.

The list of individuals below are the landlord, owners and residents the borough has filed liens on their property for non-payment of their sewage bills.

These amounts are as of June 30, 2015:

Dale Butler $3,843.73
Steven & Jackie Curtis $3,824.32
Glen Dalton, Jr. $654.29
Larry Deringer $18,902.39
Jason Foster $917.30
Gerry & Denise Foster $5,689.60
James Frank $910.07
Mark & Diana Holmes $2,995.23
Heath & Dana Knox $1,396.91
George & Melanie McGary $2,685.47
Christopher & Rebecca Mertz $504.01
Barbara Robinson $10,787.34
Jessica Thiel $4,000.17
Diana Fair $1,154.45
William & Sheryl Ogorschock $6,838.14
Place an Ad

The Prospect Borough has been sending out the Prospector Newsletter every quarter since 2013 to over five hundred (500) residents/businesses in Prospect Borough. The information in the newsletter is very informative and is a good way for residents to see what is going on in their community.

The Borough Council is considering adding Advertisements from local businesses to the newsletter starting the first quarter mailing of the Prospector in January 2016. These Ads would not be full page but just possibly a "2 x 3-1/2", business card, size. There will be a $25 fee to have this Ad in the newsletter. You can determine which newsletter you would like to be in. We have newsletters for Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall so some of you may have businesses that only pertain more towards a certain season. We will also add you to our mailing list so you can see the "Prospect Pride" we are trying to achieve for our community.

For now we are just trying to find out if you are interested in having your business placed our Prospector Newsletter. This is a good way for the residents to find out what businesses are local and for the business owner to increase your business needs. Please either call or email me that you are interested; include your phone number if emailing me, then once I have more information on the pricing and details I will forward this onto you.

Judy A. Marzullo
724-865-3010
prospectboro@zoominternet.net

DID YOU KNOW?

The first church of Mt. Nebo was of squared logs. In the building of this church, James Welsh, the elder, was one of the corner-men. It was built about 1806, and stood directly back of where the stone church was built. The floor and pulpit were made of boards, an article rarely used in the construction of houses at that date. Each family furnished a bench for a seat. The early meetings were attended by fully one-third of all the Presbyterian people in Butler County.

Have I got your interest peaked just a little on the history in our area? Please contact me at 724-865-2181 and purchase a copy of "An Address: Historic and Reminiscet" by Andrew White McCollough.

The sale of these books benefits the Prospect Area Preservation Society and the restoration of their building at 383 Main St. in Prospect.

Thank you for your support.
Your friend in Christ!
Mary Harmon

Prospect Borough

is accepting applications for a Full Time Maintenance Worker
90 Day Probationary Period

This is a full time maintenance worker position involving the direction of the Public Works Department for the Borough of Prospect. Employee is responsible for directing the maintenance, repair and care of all borough streets and facilities to include supervision of the construction and maintenance of roads and storm sewers and the maintenance of Public Works equipment. Responsible for the supervision of maintenance and repairs of the borough sewage system and building.

Please stop in and get an application at the
Prospect Borough Office
159 Monroe Street
Prospect, PA 16052
Accepting applications through November 1, 2015.
Fall Leaf Clean-Up
This Fall the Maintenance Department will be picking up paper bags; NO plastic, filled with leaves ONLY to help clean up the community. We will use the leaves to be used as mulch in the spring. The paper bags are at the expense of the resident. Please place your bags near your curb. If no pick up is made within three (3) days just call the Borough Office 724-865-3010. You may also bring your bags to the back of the Borough Building; please look for signs.

JUST A REMINDER
please do not blow the leaves out onto our streets or your neighbor’s yard!

Thank You!

Prospect Borough Halloween Party!

**Day:** Saturday, October 31st  
**Time:** Judging 5:30PM - 6:00PM  
Trick or Treat: 6:00PM – 7:30PM  
**Where:** Prospect Borough Fire Hall

Prizes are given out for best costumes plus all get a **Trick or Treat!**

Clocks Fall Back Sunday November 1st
As Daylight Savings Time Ends

Early to bed, and early to rise, makes a person healthy, wealthy and wise, goes the popular wisdom. If you believe that, then this is your weekend as clocks change and most of the U.S. falls back an hour. The change, officially the end of Daylight Saving Time, comes at 2 a.m. Sunday, when the clocks fall back to 1 a.m. In theory this should give everyone an extra hour of sleep, though how many hours people sleep is often the result of factors other than the clock. The changeover also takes place on the weekend, so what is a rest day can be used in part to offset the chronological changes that for some are akin to jet lag or traveling across a time zone.

Residents of Hawaii, most of Arizona and some U.S. territories don’t have to change their clocks because they never moved them forward in the spring. Those areas do not observe Daylight Saving Time so the shift back to standard never takes place.

Perhaps the biggest misconception about the whole process is that somehow by shifting the clock, people are changing the number of hours of daylight. Wrong. What is changing is how society organizes itself to take advantage of time.

**DO NOT FORGET TO CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES IN YOUR SMOKE DETECTORS!**
2015 U.S. General Election
will be held on
Tuesday, the 3rd of November 2015.

This off-year election will only feature special elections to the United States Congress, if any. There will also be municipal, school board, gubernatorial and state legislative elections in a few states; as well as numerous citizen initiatives, and a variety of other local offices on the ballot.

Below are the Prospect Borough candidates up for election to the Borough Council:

Republican
Paul Braunstein
Ed Robinson
Eric Hilliard

Democrat
Chad Green
Mary Harmon

IT IS IMPORTANT TO GO AND VOTE
FOR YOUR NEXT
BOROUGH COUNCIL PERSON!

THANKSGIVING DAY, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26TH

In a 1789 proclamation, President George Washington called on the people of the United States to acknowledge God for affording them "an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness" by observing a day of thanksgiving. Devoting a day to "public thanksgiving and prayer", as Washington called it, became a yearly tradition in many communities.

Thanksgiving became a national holiday in 1863. In that year, during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln made his Thanksgiving Day Proclamation. He asked his fellow citizens "to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise..."

It was not until 1941 that Congress designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day, thus creating a federal holiday.

However official, the idea of a special day for giving thanks was not born of presidential proclamations. Native American harvest festivals had been celebrated for centuries and colonial services dated back to the late 16th century. Thanksgiving Day, as we know it today, began in the early 1600's when settlers in both Massachusetts and Virginia came together to give thanks for their survival, for the fertility of their fields and for their faith. The most widely known early Thanksgiving is that the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, who feasted for three days with the Wampanoag people in 1621.

Turkey has become the traditional Thanksgiving fare because at one time it was a rare treat. During the 1830's, an eight-to-ten pound bird costs a day's wages. Even though turkeys are affordable today, they still remain a celebratory symbol of bounty. In fact, astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin ate roast turkey in foil packets for their first meal on the moon.
Merry Christmas
and
Happy Holidays
to the
Prospect Borough Community!

We hope all is with you and your families during the holiday season.

God Bless,
Prospect Borough Council

This year can be different!
Pick only two or three strategies from the list below and implement them today. Then, instead of scolding yourself on Dec. 31, 2015, you'll be able to say,

Look how much I accomplished this year!

Write it down. You've heard it before, but the truth is writing down your goals forces you to get clear about what you want. Use a pen and paper (you can transfer it to your computer later). That simple physical act helps cement the desire in your brain.

Find a replacement. In The Compound Effect, Darren Hardy explains one way to break a bad habit is to replace it with a good one. What can you choose to add to your life that will fill the void left by eliminating a bad habit? For example, replace TV time with family time, candy with fresh fruit and talk radio with inspiring audios.

Tell someone. Talking about your goal—even if it seems huge and impossible—allows others to encourage and help you by providing resources and information you may need.

Take baby steps every day. Even small steps taken toward your goal consistently will move you in the right direction. Once you experience a few small wins, taking bigger steps becomes easier.

Take some BIG steps. Don't take all year to do what you can accomplish in a day. Once you've written down your list of goals for the year, figure out which goals could be accomplished this month—or even today.

Decide and act. Mental hurdles may keep you from making decisions and taking action. Get over it! Make a list of all the reasons you want to accomplish your stated goal. Refer to that list when indecision or inaction threatens to take control.

Team up. Even if you don't share the same goal, having a "success buddy" can keep you accountable. Meet weekly (in person or by phone) to check in on and encourage each other.

Celebrate your successes. Every time you reach a milestone, acknowledge your accomplishments in a positive way. For example, if you drop a dress size, buy a new outfit. If you pick up a new client, have dinner with a mentor. Celebrating your success will keep you focused on the larger goal.