

ALLENTOWN PATRIOTS

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To: City Of Allentown

Fr: Allentown Patriots

Re: Renaming Frederick Street to "Moonie Trexler Way"

The Allentown Patriots Board endorses the renaming of the alley way, Frederick Street, to "Moonie Trexler Way" which is located at the rear of our facility leading to the Patriots Building.

Moonie Trexler was a member of our organization since 1970 and an active charter member since 1976. Gene "Moonie" Trexler also served as our Youth Athletic Director from 1980 - 1993 and was part of the Patriots Committee for the 1984 International Softball Congress (ISC) Men's Major Word Championships held at Patriots Park in August of that year.

In recognition of his many years of service, "Moonie" received the 1978 Workhorse Award and the 1995 Bucky Boyle Award.

Please contact Don Hunsicker, Athletic Director, with any additional questions at 484-357-6135.

Thank you for your consideration regarding this matter. Below is list of Officers, Board Members, and

Officers:

Allan Trump, President

Rick Sechler, Vice President

Jenn Shellhammer, Secretary

Don Hunsicker, Athletic Director

Board Members:

Jon Adams

Brian Ritter

Barbara Chamberlain

Joe Hoffman

Mr. Mayor, Members of Allentown City Council, and To All Else This May Concern,

On January 27, 2021, Gene "Moonie" Trexler passed away at the age of 90. He was, in my opinion, an icon in the Lehigh Valley. Particularly in the local world of baseball and especially at Pates Park. He coached for many many years and did not have a personal interest in doing so, such as having a child on the team. No, he coached because he loved the game and wanted to pass that on to the youth of south Allentown area. He was my coach, and he made a huge impact on my life. He made a positive impact on all of those he coached. He taught us about sportsmanship, fair play, as well as winning isn't everything. He is a big reason for me becoming a coach of girls' softball. I find myself using lessons I learned from Coach Trexler and applying them to the teams I coached.

Mr. Trexler sacrificed time with his own family and spend countless hours at Pates Park coaching teams, prepping the field, etc. He gave his time to many boys of the south side of Allentown and his only payment was the gratification he received from his players and parents, and quite a few championship trophies.

Mr. Trexler also started the Old Timers softball league and traveled with the team to numerous locations both local and out of state. He loved to play handball and you could find him at the local handball courts when he was in his 80's. He had a zest for life and was a great example that age truly is just a number.

I went to high school with Mr. Trexler's daughter, Denise, and we remain friends to this day. Over the years I would keep in contact with Mr. Trexler, and I had the privilege of being the DJ for his 50th Wedding Anniversary to his lovely wife Rosemary.

I have recently contacted the City of Allentown as well as the Mayor's Office. There is an alley that runs off S. 10th St., (currently Frederick St), and gives you access to where the basketball court and pavilion area is at Pates Park. It is where school buses and umpire's park. I have filed a proposal to make this alley," Moonie Trexler Way."

I would love to surprise Denise Trexler and her family (Mr. Trexler's widow, Rosemary, and their son Gene) with this gift. I believe this would mean the world to them and would be a legacy to leave behind for not only his family but for all the young men Mr. Trexler coached over the years. It would be a permanent fixture that would remind us of all the memories he gave us as a coach. We could return time and time again and show our own children the kind of coach we had.

I am also a PIAA/USSSA softball umpire, and it would mean so much to me to drive to Pates Park to umpire or attend a game and see Mr. Trexler's name. I have met with the Board of Directors of Patriots Park, and they unanimously approved and support this idea. A letter from them is included in rest of this packet.

I will be reaching to Channel 69 news and the south Allentown/Pates community to be present for the reveal, and post on Facebook live should this become reality and get approved. I am also going to reach out to Cassie Schmidt, a sports reporter for Service Electric and see if she would be willing to bring a crew out to film the reveal. Keith Groller of the Morning Call is also on my list of people to contact to cover this event. Jon Adams of Patriot Organization agreed to help me with a small reception under the pavilion at the revealing celebration if approved. If approved, I would like to have the reveal on August 20, 2022. There is a double header softball game at 5 pm at Patriots Park between the Old Timers and

WFMZ. Being that Mr. Trexler founded the Old Timers League, I thought it would be perfect timing for his teammates to be in attendance and have the reveal before the games.

Please help me make this a reality. Mr. Trexler was one of the best human beings you could ever imagine. He was a loving husband, brother, father, grandfather, coach, and friend.

Attached to this letter is a series of letters/emails I received from others who support me in pursuing this petition and changing Frederick St. to "Moonie Trexler Way."

Respectfully,

James Dziedzic

482 Celandine Dr

Allentown, PA 18104

484-368-6621

Mr. Gene "Moonie" Trexler Bio Information

- Born in 1931 and raised in Allentown area
- Served his country in the US Army and in the Korean War
- Married 59 years to his wife Rosemary
- Father of 2 children, Gene and Denise
- Grandfather of 2 grandchildren, twins, Kyle and Alexis
- Enjoyed playing handball and breakfasts with fellow soldiers he was in Korean War with
- Worked in shipping department at Spirax Sarco, retiring in 1994
- Charter Member at Allentown Patriots since 1985
- Youth Athletic Director 1980 – 1993
- Received Charles Ohl award in 1977
- Coached Knee Hi Season, Playoff and Tournament Championship Teams 1976, & 1978
- Coached Knee Hi Playoff Championship Teams 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, & 1990
- 1981 his Knee Hi team were featured in motion picture of major pharmaceutical company and was viewed in schools internationally
- Received "Workhorse" award in 1987
- Received George "Buck" Boyle Award 1995
- Founded Patriots Old Timer's Softball Team
- Died January 27, 2022

Esteemed colleagues

I had the pleasure of knowing coach Moonie Trexler through Little League baseball in the early 1980s. Back in the day little league baseball was highly competitive and served as grounds for bragging rights amongst all our friends in school. There were no participation awards given out back then, things were tougher, and coaches were looked upon as leaders in the community. We respected our coaches. Coach Traxler was one of those who definitely stood out for me. He was always fair and equitable and was willing to teach not only baseball, but life lessons as well. He was extremely well respected by player's parents and opposing teams and was one of the main figures of Patriots Park for many years. He will be truly missed by all who had the fortune of knowing him and his legacy at Patriots Park will live forever. That's why it's so important as James honorably suggested that there is consideration of changing Frederick St to Moonie Trexler Way. This would be a very fitting honor that his family and all his players would be certainly extremely proud of. Thank you for your consideration

Warm regards

Joe Eckstein

484-347-7232

I wholeheartedly support and advocate for the movement to rename a south Allentown Street (Fredrick St) near Patriots Park in remembrance and honor of Gene "Moon" Trexler for his many decades of service to the children and families of our community. He was certainly a dynamic and dedicated baseball coach but often a father figure and mentor to so many kids. I was so fortunate to be one of those kids and undoubtedly my success is a reflection of Coach Trexler and his teachings! In the event that there is anything that I can do to further advance this initiative then please feel free to reach out at anytime.

Sincerely,

Patrick Slattery, Patriots Baseball Alumni 1982-1984; 610-704-3181

My wife and I are definitely in favor of renaming Fredrick St in Allentown to Moonie Trexler Way. We have known Mr. Trexler for over 50 years. Our two sons were very active in youth baseball at Patriots Park. What a wonderful way to honor his legacy.

Bill and Sue Holler

610-730-0240

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing you in support of James Dziedzic's proposal to rename Frederick St. (off S. 10th St. by Patriots Park) to "Moonie Trexler Way". Gene Trexler, Coach Moonie as I knew him, was my baseball coach for several seasons. As a coach he was strict but supportive. As young teenagers, we would get around to being "present" for practice, but Coach Moonie always made sure we were aware that we are on his clock. Shenanigans left off the field, focus on what we need to accomplish to better our skills and talents as young baseball players. He was good at recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of each player and assisted them accordingly. He always made an attempt to correct your fielding, throwing and/or batting in a way that was without criticism. He promoted sportsmanship and community service. He asked us to give back to the park by helping where assistance was needed. For those years, Pates park became my second home. I remember spending the summer days playing pickup games of basketball or baseball and then going to baseball practice or watching other games or helping out. It's funny how I can look back at it now and recognize how much Coach Moonie adored and cherished being at the field; be it to coach his team, there to help other teams or help with what was needed at the park. He took pride in what he did and it showed all the time. Aside from coaching, I got to know him as a father as Denise and I were schoolmates. He loved his family as much as he loved coaching. His personality was no different on or off the field.

Hopefully, through this and others providing their view of Coach Moonie you can see how this man has touched so many with his kindness and support. Naming a street that is directly next to the park would mean a lot to many.

Respectfully,

Jeff Ortt

jortt@cpctech.net

814-367-5918

My first encounter with Moonie was back in the mid 1979's, he was my first little league baseball coach at Patriots Park . Growing up one block from the park, I spent alot of time there getting to know Moonie well over the years. He wasn't just a baseball coach, he was a mentor and a friend. I cherish the times spent sitting at the park watching games with him. I truly miss him and his kind nature.

Brian T. Young

484-619-2858

Growing up and living a block from Patriots Park for over 20 years, Pates was a centerpiece of my childhood. It's where me and my buddies met to play everything – football, basketball, stickball, run down, cup ball, and any other game we could invent. Of course, the best was playing baseball for Pates. That's where I met Mr. Trexler.....but I'll call him Moonie because that's what he wanted us to call him even as kids. Back then (in the late 80's), Moonie coached the Knee-Hi team made up of 7th and 8th graders. My older brother and then later I both played for Moonie. I'm sure he coached me up and made me a better ball player. But mostly I remember Moonie as being someone I just wanted to be around. Throughout my many years of hanging out at Pates, he seemed to always be there. Always friendly, positive, happy. He embodied the joy that Pates Park brought to so many youth and adults alike. That's why I find it befitting and fully support the City of Allentown recognizing Mr. Trexler by renaming Frederick St as Moonie Trexler Way in his honor.

Sincerely,

Mike Holler

11442 Caruthers Way

Glen Allen, VA 23059

Mikeholler95@gmail.com

804-314-8759

February 23, 2022

Dear Allentown City Council members,

I grew up a south side Patriots Park kid. I played baseball for the Allentown Patriot's youth baseball teams and spent my days playing all sports at the park all year round. It was truly a great place to grow up and I have friends to this day that I made in those years at the park. One of the mainstays of Patriots Park and the Patriots youth baseball teams was Eugene(Moon) Trexler. "Moon" was my next-door neighbor and I was blessed to have him as my neighbor and friend. He was like a second father to me and taught me a great deal about sports and life while having a catch in the backyard.

I was never fortunate enough to actually play baseball for Moon, but witnessed as I grew up how dedicated he was to the teams and young men he coached. He was a coach and mentor to innumerable young men through the many years that he coached. When he wasn't coaching he was involved in numerous aspects of the day to day functioning of Patriots Park. Included in that was his influence on getting a senior league softball league started. He could always be found at the park on summer nights watching baseball and mens and women's softball. He was known and loved by everyone and was truly known as simply, truly a great guy!

Naming a street, or adding a street sign to an existing one after Moon that leads to the park would be perfect to honor his name and efforts he made in leading young men and teaching them the value of sports and sportsmanship. I feel an excellent location would be at the corner of 11th and St. John St., or a secondary location might be 10th and Frederick St. Frederick St. is an alley leading to the back of Patriots Park.

Sincerely,



Brent Windsor

bwindsor53@gmail.com

To whom it may concern,

Mr. Gene "Moonie" Trexler was a coach, neighbor, mentor, and friend to me while growing up in the Patriots Park neighborhood of Allentown, PA. As a coach, Mr. Trexler was the patriarch of the Allentown Patriots organization and his impact on my life continues to this day.

I first became acquainted with Mr. Trexler while watching his city league baseball teams practice and play at Pate's park. His coaching style was calm and supportive. His kindness and equitable coaching style still serves as a model to me in my own coaching and teaching. His teams were always competitive and he was beloved by his players, former players, parents, and the community. As a teenager, I was the Trexler's paper boy, delivering the Allentown Morning Call each morning to his house on Poplar street. Many times, while collecting, I spent time just talking to Mr. and Mrs. Trexler and I always felt better about myself after doing so.

For more than 20 years, Mr. Trexler took a monthly turn driving the Allentown Patriots box truck around south Allentown to collect newspapers that we would take to the recycling center and earn money for the Patriot's organization. Usually two players accompanied Mr. Trexler and I went on that route with him many times as a teenager. What I remember most is the easy conversation and unbridled kindness of the man. After loading, and then unloading the truck at the recycling center, Mr. Trexler always treated us to a steak sandwich and pierogies at Zandy's.

Mr. Trexler was also a weekend warrior in his own right. He was an avid handball player who counted the South Mountain Junior High School principal as one of his playing partners. Mr. Trexler also organized and participated in a weekly "old-timers" softball game that was played on Thursday mornings at 8am. He often joked about some of the "old guys" who couldn't run the bases but still got out there anyway.

As a father, husband, teacher, and coach, I am part of Mr. Trexler's legacy. The impact he had on me can be seen in the conversations and interactions I have with my students in the classroom and my players on the court/field. I strongly support the renaming of Frederick St. to Moonie Trexler Way and cannot think of a more deserving man who, as a pillar of the community in which he lived, gave selflessly, and positively impacted so many.

Thank you for your consideration,

Chris Huber 859-380-5513

26 Hawthorne Ave, Fort Thomas, KY 41075

Chris.huber@campbell.kyschools.us

Dear Public Official,

My name is Rick Estrella and I am writing this letter for your consideration to rename Frederick St. after a pillar of our community who recently passed. Gene "Moonie" Trexler was laid to rest at age 90 this past January. He was instrumental in teaching so many young people the fundamentals of baseball by coaching the game he loved dearly. Having him as a coach was such a blessing because it was evident that he cared for young people. He would always find ways to teach life lessons that would help beyond the game of baseball. I will always remember his motivational talks and demeanor, which are things that I work to model in my own life.

Naming the street after Coach Trexler would be such a great opportunity to honor a man that spent so much time in that area serving others. It would serve to remind others of his contribution to this community and inspire to embrace his sacrificial spirit and "pay it forward".

Thanks for your consideration in renaming the street to Moonie Trexler Way.

Sincerely,

Rick Estrella
rick@lifechurchlv.org

James,

I know you were looking for memories that I shared with Moonie. As we talked before, I was never coached by him or had any contact with him until I umpired the Old Timers benefit games at the Park. He probably knew more about me than I did of him since I played many years with the Pates Jacks fastpitch team, and I knew he attended many games at Pates Park.

As I wrote on his Memories & Condolences page, he always came up to me and thanked me for donating my time umpiring their benefit games.

That meant more than any monetary gift I would have received.

I am definitely supportive of renaming the street after him.

Skip Snyder

484-201-0243

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of the renaming the small alley by Patriots Park, Frederick St, to Moonie Trexler Way. As a young boy growing up in Allentown and the Patriots organization being a big part of not only my family but my life, I can't think of a better way to honor someone who impacted so many young people's lives. I had the privilege to play on Gene "Moonie" Trexler's Knee high baseball team. As a coach and mentor, he dedicated his summers to teach and develop young boys to not only play the game of baseball but to teach them many life lessons. As a child we may not realize what those lessons were but as we grew those teachable moments stuck with many of us and we could look back at those instances and draw on the lessons and experiences. During my time on the team Coach Trexler did not have a son playing he coached all of us to help us grow because he wanted to.

Throughout my career I have worked with at risk youth and in my current position as the Chief Juvenile Probation Officer in Lehigh County I can tell you that people like Coach Trexler are invaluable to the youth of our community.

I feel that this small but most meaningful action is a great way to honor the contribution the Coach Trexler gave to so many kids who were lucky enough to be able to be a part of his team

Thank you,



Kevin D Miller

610-217-8526

March 5, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

James Dziedzic has submitted a request to rename Frederick Street in Allentown, to Moonie Trexler Way, in honor of, and respect for, a great man and baseball coach, Gene Trexler. It is my privilege to write you this letter in full support of his proposal.

As someone who grew up involved in "South Side" youth athletics, I understand the difference a wise and caring coach can make. Knowing some whom he coached, I can tell you that as boys, they may have made it so that Mr. Trexler had his work cut out for him ~ as spirited boys tend to make everything more challenging. As men, it is clear that Mr. Trexler made a lasting and meaningful impression on them, which can be seen in their lives today.

From stressing the importance of hard work and discipline, to helping to drive a spirit of community through expectations of giving back and also leading by example, Mr. Trexler gave these boys an understanding of what true giving of oneself looks like. He not only helped raise these boys in the sport of baseball, he helped raise these boys to be the men they are. Through sportsmanship, he taught life lessons of fairness, respect, and perseverance. Through expectations of community service, he taught the importance of kindness, generosity, and simply being there for others.

It takes a special man to elicit the steps being taken by James, and the outpouring of support I'm sure will follow ~ all to give this symbol of love and respect to the man who gave so much of himself to others.

Having been friends with Mr. Trexler's daughter, Denise, when we were younger, I am sure she would be absolutely thrilled to know the impact her father had on so many.

I hope you will approve James Dziedzic's proposal to rename Frederick Street to Moonie Trexler Way. In a world seemingly drowning in negativity, it seems the perfect opportunity to honor a man who left a such positive mark on his community.

Sincerest Regards,

Robin Molnar
205 North Second Street
Emmaus, Pa 18049

Mr. Trexler was a great influence to me as a kid growing up playing baseball @ Patriots Park. I played from grade school thru high school and coach Trexler was always doing something for the organization. He dedicated a lot of his time, knowledge of the game for anyone that would listen. Just an overall great man that made an impact on my life. A street? We should rename the park as well. Mr. Trexler was involved @ every level being a coach, field management, running the organization etc.. He did it all and did it with a smile 😊. He knew everyone and everyone knew him. Just an all-around great man. His legacy deserves to be remembered for how many people he touched during his career.

Robert Bowie

Benbowie3@gmail.com

Like many fathers, when my son started playing knee-hi baseball, I helped coach the team he played for at Patriots Park and planned on leaving after he moved up to a higher league in two years. That is when I met Moonie Trexler. When I saw the dedication, drive and genuine love he had for baseball and the kids he coached, I spent the next eight years as one of his assistant coaches.

Moonie always put his heart and soul into coaching. His house was a few blocks away but his backyard was Patriots Park. How appropriate and deserving it would be to have one of the roads leading to the place he loved renamed Moonie Trexler Way as a testimony to his devotion and love for the game of baseball.

Sincerely,

Joe Corvino

Dear Board Members,

I am writing on behalf of the late Gene Trexler. I was born and raised in Allentown and attended William Allen.

While at Allen I was a member of the softball and basketball teams.

I became friends with Gene's daughter, Denise, as we were basketball teammates.

Gene was a tremendous supporter of not only the basketball team but the softball team as well.

During my years at Allen we played many games at Pates Park . As a result of many dedicated fans, we called it home. Home is place where friends and family gather to show their unconditional love and enthusiasm. Gene Trexler was someone who did just that for every softball game.

It would be very appropriate to recognize Gene's dedication to the student athletes of Allentown School District by having a street named after a man who gave very unselfishly.

I am petitioning to have this honor bestowed upon Mr. Trexler and his loving family.

I appreciate your consideration.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dorward Nimeh

Class of 87'

04/20/22

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to support the name change of Frederick St to Moonie Trexler Way. I grew up in Allentown on South Idaho St and spent countless hours at Pate's Park and we always saw the fixture of our community...Mr. Trexler.

I went to school with his daughter Denise and have such fond memories of Mr. Moonie Trexler. He was a coach, a dependable member of the community and cared about all of us. I can remember many times seeing Mr. Trexler at the park when we played baseball and during the years when we played fastpitch Men's league softball. He cared about preserving the fun and respectful environment in sports in our community. I can think of no one that would deserve this more. Mr. Trexler was always there for us and what better way to recognize this than to memorialize him with a street name change to celebrate a dying breed, the men and women that give back to community selflessly.

Thank you very much for considering this and I hope to hear of the good news and when I visit my parents on South Idaho Street, I hope to drive down Moonie Trexler Way someday.

Sincerely,

Chris Noga

Cell 302.528.3526

805 Hammersmoth Court

Avondale, PA 19311

To whom it may concern,

I have had the privilege to know Mr Trexler for many years. He has been a very fine coach, manager, and player for the Great Allentown Patriots.

Over the years Moonie has served as a fabulous ambassador, not only at Patriots Park, but to the city of Allentown when special events took place at various locations in Allentown.

Always with a smile and a joke or two, Moonie had a serious side as well. He helped the younger players with their development in baseball and in life in general. Moonie has had a lifetime of abundant friends and family who have had the pleasure of knowing and respecting Mr Trexler.

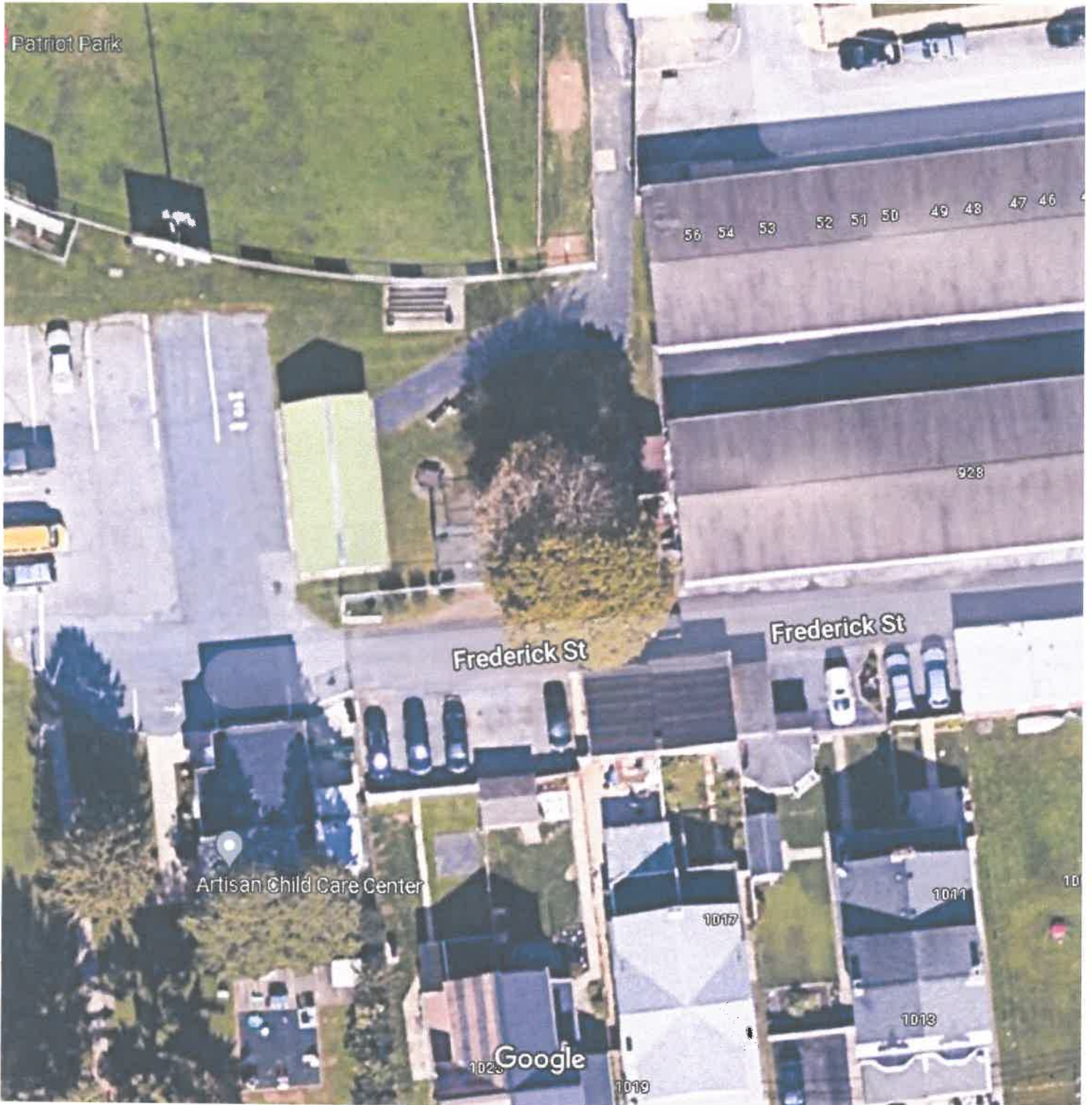
I would highly recommend Mr Trexler to have a street named after him, especially at or near Patriots Park.

Sincerely,

Dale M Culton

610-657-6868

Google Maps Patriot Park



Map data ©2022, Map data ©2022 20 ft