

Borough of Ephrata Newsletter

Published by the Borough of Ephrata to Communicate With and To Inform Residents About Ephrata Borough News and Events

Upcoming Community Events

Fast and furious will be the pace for a three-stage criterion bike race held in the Ephrata area on April 16 & 17, 2005. With a variety of riders from amateurs to professionals, the third stage starts downtown Ephrata on Sunday, April 17, 2005. Sponsored by Red Rose Races and the Ephrata Area Chamber. Watch local newspapers for more details.

Ephrata Borough's Grater Park will be the scene of TNT Youth Ministries Annual Extreme Concert on Friday, May 27, 2005 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM.

Watch for the annual Mother's Day Convoy, Sunday, May 8, 2005. Proceeds benefit Make a Wish Foundation.

Ephrata Police Department Expands into Broader Service Area

On January 17, 2005 history was made when the Borough of Ephrata and the Ephrata Township Police Departments became one. A plan in the making for more than three years, Chief Steve Annibali stated "it just makes sense from every aspect of efficiency". As an example, where a housing unit would be divided in both the Borough and Township the jurisdiction of one police department may end and another begin. With the new Ephrata Police jurisdiction the territorial boundaries between the Ephrata Borough and Ephrata Township no longer exist.

Upon signing a five-year contract the new Ephrata Police Department with its 30 officers got right to business. With Mayor Ralph Mowen swearing in the newest members of the force these eight new officers (as pictured) began two-weeks of transitional training. It's been a smooth merger—everyone on staff is supportive and has pulled together, " stated Chief Annibali.

Currently Pennsylvania has approximately 1,125 police departments, more than any other state. With the consolidation of the Ephrata Borough and Ephrata Township police departments the focus is to continue providing professional police service through experience and commitment to an expanded "location of choice" Ephrata community.

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Diane Fox

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Steve Wene



John Hirneisen



Brandon Bartholomew

Restaurant Inspection Change

Ephrata Borough has transferred the licensing and inspection of eating and drinking establishments located in the Borough to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Food Safety effective January 2005. Concerns about licensed establishments should now be directed to the Department of Agriculture 717-346-3223.

Ephrata's Railroad Station is on a New Track

The former Pennsylvania and Reading Railroad Station located in downtown Ephrata will soon take on a new purpose as a visitor's center. Built in the late 1800's this 116 year-old facility, which once accommodated thousands of train travelers, is owned by the Borough of Ephrata.

To bring this once bustling railroad station back to life, renovations are scheduled to begin in Spring 2005 with an approximate completion date of five months. Upon completion this downtown focal point will be the new home for the Ephrata Area Chamber of Commerce and Downtown Ephrata Incorporated (DEI). The Historic Conservation Trust, having been the stewards of the railroad station, will also continue to maintain meeting and storage space.

In an effort to retain the historical significance of the station, plans to preserve original features of the railroad station, such as the benches and wainscoting, are anticipated within the renovations. Visitors will also be able to view railroad memorabilia and train displays of days gone by. Additional amenities will include public restrooms, a handicap accessible entrance, meeting rooms and kitchenette.

The exterior area of the station will also see improvements through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. Those enhancements will include lighting, new pavers, landscaping, benches and signage.



2005 Borough Street and Alley Program

The 2005 street and alley program will soon be underway. Scheduled to be repaved or reconstructed are the following locations in the Borough that have an estimated start date in May or June. These projects will also consist of installation of new storm water inlet boxes, handicap ramps and new street signs.

Overlay projects are:

◆ Boomerang Drive - Lake Street to Lake Street	2,250 feet
◆ Martin Avenue - West Main Street to Lancaster Avenue	1,625 feet
◆ East Chestnut Street - South State Street to Lincoln Avenue	1,210 feet
◆ Cloister Avenue - West Main Street to Martin Avenue	630 feet

Reconstruction projects are:

◆ Hemlock Road - Lincoln Avenue to Cedar Hill Cemetery	775 feet
◆ Diller Alley - Hill Street to East Main Street	450 feet

Emergency Municipal Services Tax in Effect

In response to Pennsylvania Act 222 the Ephrata Borough Council authorized a change, which was effective beginning in calendar year 2005, changing the Occupational Privilege Tax to the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax. With this change Council enacted that each person employed earning in excess of \$1,500 within the corporate limit of the Borough be subject to a \$20.00 per annum tax.

The Emergency and Municipal Services Tax is a once per year payment subject through ones principal employer in the Borough. For those having more than one occupation within the Borough proof of evidence is required so that the tax is only deducted once by the primary employer.

For additional information or questions regarding this matter please contact the Borough Business Office at 738-9222.

Go Fat-Free Today!

Not only are fats, oils and greases bad for your arteries and your waistline; they're bad for sewer systems too. Far too often, grease washes down our drains through the kitchen sink. Ultimately, this grease attaches to drain pipes on our property as well as in pipes in the streets. After time, the grease build-up can block the pipes. These blocked pipes could then result in sewer overflows and backups which are expensive and an unpleasant cleanup.

Grease comes from a variety of sources. The typical culprits are meat fats, lard, cooking oils, food scraps, shortening, butter and margarines. The simplest way to avoid overflows and backups is to simply keep grease out of the sewer system. Here are a few other preventable measures:

- ◆ Never pour grease down sinks, drains or into toilets
- ◆ Scrape grease and other food scraps into a container and place in the trash for disposal (or recycling if available)
- ◆ Don't pour grease down garbage disposals. Use a basket or strainer to catch food scraps and empty baskets/strainers in the trash for disposal
- ◆ Be active in educating others about the harmful effects of grease in pipes

For more information on going fat-free, please contact the Borough's Environmental Resource Manager at 738-9282.

Main Sewer Collector Line Scheduled for Replacement

Beginning early this summer, the Borough will replace 6,600 lineal feet of an existing twenty-inch sewer main. The project, which will take four to six months to complete, will allow for the elimination of the Moyer pumping station and will be a cost savings to the Borough due to a reduction in electric, fuel and equipment costs associated with this pumping station.

The existing sewer line is approximately sixty years old and is in very poor condition. The new line, made of thirty-inch plastic PVC, will allow for additional flow capacity to meet future needs.

This project, which begins at the Moyer pumping station located directly across from Ephrata Management Services (formerly Walter Moyer Co.), follows the Cocalico Creek and will end at a distribution box located in Old Mill Road.

Ephrata Police Department Expands, Cont'd.



Brad Ortenzi



Matt Lucky



Bob Haines



Paul Moore

As a united police force ready to serve and protect, the new Ephrata Police Department conveys a word of thanks to the residents, businesses and visitors for their continued cooperation and support. As a service-oriented department the public is encouraged to get to know our existing and new Ephrata Police Officers.

Borough of Ephrata Newsletter

124 South State Street
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Borough Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Phone: 717-738-9222
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Email: custserv@ephrataboro.org

Borough Manager
Gary A. Nace

Chief of Police
Steven N. Annibali

Ephrata Borough Council meets for its Work Session on the first Monday each month at 7:00 PM and for its Regular Meeting on the second Monday each month at 7:30 PM at the Borough Hall, 124 South State Street.

Ephrata Borough Council

John W. Berkes	1st Ward	738-3982
Bryan J. Foard	1st Ward	721-6345
Johann H. Freeseaman, Jr.	2nd Ward	733-4883
Mary E. Schurr, Vice President	2nd Ward	733-6411
Anthony Kilkuskie	3rd Ward	733-7607
Fred M. Thomas, President	3rd Ward	733-0421
Robert J. Good	4th Ward	733-2520
Paul S. Rauch	4th Ward	738-9912
Mayor		
Ralph E. Mowen		733-6129

Permits Needed for On-Street Dumpsters

In January, Ephrata Borough Council enacted an ordinance to regulate temporary dumpsters located on a public street or pedestrian way. This ordinance requires that a permit be obtained prior to placing a dumpster on a Borough street or public sidewalk. In order to acquire a permit the dumpster provider must have a Borough haulers license.

The ordinance also requires an initial fee for this 30-day permit and additional fees for a maximum of two possible extension renewals within a calendar year. For a list of licensed haulers and specific requirements on placing a dumpster on a street or pedestrian way please contact the Borough Codes Department at 717-738-9202.

Please note that these requirements do not apply to dumpsters placed on private property.

Spring Cleaning Begins in Ephrata Borough

In just a few weeks the Borough of Ephrata Public Works Division will begin its annual street sweeping program. As part of this program all Borough streets will be swept twice per year and sprayed for weeds with emphasis in the central business district and high traffic areas. As streets are cleaned they will be posted in order to notify the public that no parking will be permitted during the maintenance period. As always the Borough appreciates community cooperation during this time.

The Borough further asks for community cooperation in the clearing of debris on storm water grates. The removal of this material not only improves the aesthetics of the Borough but also makes the streets safer and improves the quality of water being received into nearby streams.

Refuse and Recycling Collection Notices for Ephrata Borough Customers

- ◆ Refuse and recycling collection will be delayed one day during the week of Monday, May 30, 2005 - Memorial Day
- ◆ Yard Waste Collection begins April 1, 2005 through October 15, 2005—Collection is same day as recycling
- ◆ Tire and White Good Collection (Large appliances weighing more than fifty pounds) will be Saturday, May 7, 2005
Extra service tags required for yard waste & tires - \$2.00/ each - white goods - \$20.00/each

For additional information, please contact the Business Office at 738-9222.

Daylight Savings Time Begins April 3, 2005