

Borough of Ephrata Newsletter

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

Ephrata Community Calendar of Events

September – October 2006

88th Annual Ephrata Fair
September 26 – 30

Ephrata Fair Parade
September 27 at 7:00 PM

Apple Dumpling Day at the
Ephrata Cloister
October 7
9:30 AM until sold out

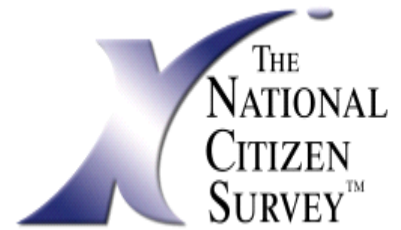
Ephrata Public Library
Book Sale
October 13 at 6:00 PM
October 14, 16, 17 & 18
During Library Hours

Jack Frost Parade
October 25 at 7:00 PM
(Rain date October 26)

Ephrata Borough Welcomes Input through Citizen Survey

Ephrata Borough is about to begin its first comprehensive survey of Borough residents. We have hired the National Research Center to conduct what is called the “National Citizen Survey”. This survey has been used in 350 municipalities in 21 states and will allow Ephrata to compare its results with other communities across the nation.

The survey process begins with the National Research Center randomly selecting 1,200 households within the Borough. Each household selected will receive a postcard in the middle of September announcing that the household has been selected to participate in the survey. One week later, each selected household will receive the actual survey form to be completed, along with a cover letter explaining who from the household should complete the survey. Near the end of September, a reminder will be mailed to each selected household in case they have not yet completed the survey. (Since this is a confidential process and there is no way of knowing if a household responded to the first request, every selected household will receive a reminder to complete the survey.)



If your household is selected to participate, please take the time to complete the survey form. The survey process is a great way for Borough Council to get feedback from a cross-section of residents.

Each household completing the survey will return the form directly to the National Research Center. The Center staff will then tabulate results from all surveys returned and issue a report to the Borough.

There will be public meetings in December 2006 to discuss the survey results. In addition, complete survey results will be posted on the Borough’s website.

While it is important to know how residents feel about the community and how the Borough is performing, it is even more important to take these responses and determine how to improve resident satisfaction in the future. To that end, the Borough will hold a series of “town meetings” in early 2007 to get additional citizen input on how to make Ephrata the best possible place to live, work and play. Interested residents may attend these town meetings to express their thoughts on how to improve our community.

This citizen input will then be put to use by Borough Council as it develops programs and budgets for the future.

Inside this issue:

Value of Trees	2
Ephrata Police Respond	3
Borough Project Update	3
Recycling News	4
Fall Leaf Program Information	4

Borough Councilman Freeseaman Passes Away Unexpectedly

On July 11, 2006 the Ephrata community mourned the loss of Borough Councilman Johann Freeseaman. Freeseaman represented Ephrata Borough’s 2nd Ward where he served since 2004. Jon was also the owner of The Olde Lincoln House Restaurant. The Borough conveys its gratitude for Jon’s service to the community and extends its deepest sympathy to the Freeseaman family.

The Value of Trees to a Community

Did you know that the right tree in the right place could benefit you, your home, and your community? Besides providing brilliant colors throughout each season, trees add beauty and grace to any landscape setting. They make life more enjoyable, peaceful, relaxing, and offer a rich inheritance for future generations. Please consider the following value that trees provide to the Ephrata community and consider planting or replacing a tree when one needs to be taken down.



- ♦ Trees and shrubs properly placed and cared for can significantly increase property values. This includes screening unsightly views and decreasing noise pollution along busy thoroughfares and intersections.
 - ♦ Trees serving as windbreaks around homes can shield against wind and snow resulting in reduced heating costs by as much as 30 percent.
 - ♦ Depending on location, species, size and condition, shade from trees can reduce utility bills for air conditioning in buildings by 15-50 percent.
 - ♦ Trees can absorb carbon dioxide at a rate of 13 pounds per tree per year.
 - ♦ Trees prevent or reduce soil erosion and water pollution along rivers, streams and lakes.
- ♦ In autumn after leaves drop to the ground they can be raked into landscapes to provide excellent mulch for flowerbeds and gardens.
 - ♦ Research indicates that seeing trees can help reduce stress.
 - ♦ Trees are meaningful as commemoratives of deceased loved ones and for sharing something of value with future generations.

Whether you enjoy planting and caring for trees, like to see them grow or provide a home and food for wildlife - trees have been enjoyed throughout history....

"I never before knew the full value of trees. Under them I breakfast, dine, write, read and receive my company."

Thomas Jefferson

Borough of Ephrata Payment Reminder

To ensure proper credit to your account, please submit your utility bill stub with your check or money order payment. When paying in person at the Borough office please present your stub to the cashier. Thank you for allowing us to provide the best service possible.

To All Borough Customers...

Thank You!

Please join us on Friday, November 3, 2006 for Customer Appreciation Day. Refreshments will be served.

***The Borough Offices will be closed Labor Day ~ September 4, 2006
and Thanksgiving ~ November 23 & 24, 2006***

Main Collector Project Moving Along

Replacing underground pipe in a residential area that was once open fields is not without its challenges. That is what the construction crew recently ran into during the replacement of the main collector (sewer line) on South State Street. It was there, workers literally ran into, not a brick wall, but a wall of rock. Having dug down approximately 24 feet (as pictured), Anrich Inc. the general contractor for the project, halted attempts to remove the rock using machinery until a blasting company was called in.

The main collector is a \$2.45 million dollar project that will replace an existing 20-inch terra cotta clay pipe sewer line with a 30-inch PVC (plastic) line. The existing line was installed in the early 1940's.

According to Steve Bonner, Project Manager, the project that began in mid-February, which replaces 6,900 feet of pipe, is approximately 65% complete. Currently, the main thrust of the project is located on West Queen Street and will move through Grater Park behind the Eicher Arts Center then onto Cocalico Street where it will join the work previously completed.



Ephrata Police Respond to Assist Flooded Community

Answering the call to assist their comrades during the recent June flooding, members of the Ephrata Police Department traveled one hundred miles to Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania where torrential rains caused major flooding. “The flooding in the Bloomsburg community and surrounding areas was on the scale of Hurricane Agnes,” stated Sergeant Chris McKim.

A plea to emergency personnel by Bloomsburg Chief of Police Leo Sokoloski, asked for assistance to respond to problems caused by rain and severe flooding. The flood, which crippled the Bloomsburg area, also left the Bloomsburg Police Department exhausted and in need of relief. It was due to this request that the Ephrata Police Department personnel responded.



The five members of the Ephrata Police Department that provided services to the Town of Bloomsburg included Sergeant Chris McKim, Corporals Philip Snively and Eric Schmitt, and Patrol Officers John Hirneisen and Steve Wene.

While there, the officers provided a presence in the flooded areas to ensure safety to its citizens, assisted with water distribution, bike patrols, and assisted citizens in any way they could. The team made the trip with an Ephrata SUV police cruiser, the Borough's Special Services Vehicle and two police bikes.

While in Bloomsburg for the four days “the residents were very appreciative that police from miles away took the time to assist their town and we were glad we could help,” stated Sgt. McKim.

The Borough is in the process of applying for reimbursement for services provided by Ephrata Police Officers through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

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124 South State Street
Ephrata, PA 17522
www.ephrataboro.org

Borough Office Hours
Monday-Friday 8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Phone: 717-738-9222
Fax: 717-733-4062
After Hours: 717-733-1277
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

Bryan J. Foard	1st Ward	721-6345
Daryl L. Horning	1st Ward	733-6226
Mary E. Schurr, President	2nd Ward	733-6411
Anthony Kilkuskie	3rd Ward	733-7607
Fred M. Thomas	3rd Ward	733-0421
Robert J. Good, Vice President	4th Ward	733-2520
Victor E. Richard	4th Ward	733-8242
Mayor		
Ralph E. Mowen		733-6129

BOROUGH OF EPHRATA REFUSE/RECYCLING & LEAF COLLECTION INFORMATION

Recycling & Refuse:

Labor Day – Monday, September 4, 2006 no collection of refuse and recycling. During this week all service will be delayed one day



Thanksgiving – Thursday, November 23, 2006 no collection – pick-up will be Friday

*Yard Waste collection will end October 15, 2006 - after this date all yard waste is placed with regular trash

*Tire & White Goods (large appliances weighing more than 50 lbs.) will be collected the week of September 11th – collection is same day as recycling

Cardboard Recycling - The Borough has a cardboard recycling container in the parking lot located across from Public Works Complex on Pine Street

* Yard Waste & Tire Tags - \$2.00, White Goods - \$20.00

Fall Leaf Collection:

The Borough will provide leaf pick-up on the same day as trash and recycling collection. Leaves will be collected October 16 – 19; October 30 – November 2; November 13 – 16; and November 27 – 30

Pick up your free Leaf Bags at the following locations...

Saturday, October 7th at Grater Memorial Park, Calico Street 8:00 AM to Noon

After October 9th at Ephrata Borough Hall, 124 South State Street Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM; or at the

Ephrata Recreation Center, 130 Academy Drive Monday – Friday 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM; Saturday 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM; and Sunday 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Although the Borough has not placed a limit on the number of bags available per household, we do ask that you only pick up what you feel you need

To all who have or are serving our country...thank you!