



EBENSBURG BULLETIN

Official Publication of Ebensburg Borough



EBENSBURG WELCOMES NEW BUSINESSES

January 2014

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Borough Council

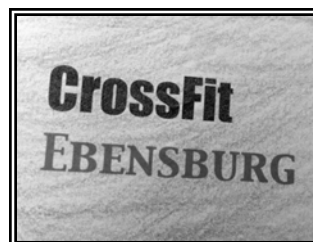
Doug Tusing, President
Susan Barber
Cecilia Houser
Theresa Jacoby
Dave Kuhar
Joe Lutz
Joe Miller
Mayor Randy Datsko



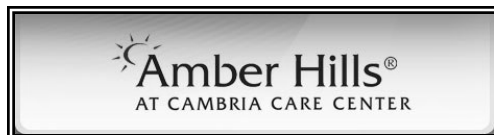
102 S. CENTER STREET
472-4601



206 E. HIGH STREET - 472-5900



437 S. CENTER STREET
341-5932



429 MANOR DRIVE - 472-8100

Mylo Park Welcome to Ebensburg Sign

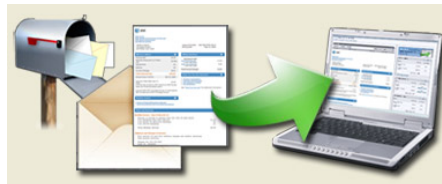
Welcome to Ebensburg signs have now been installed at the Lake Rowena and Mylo Park entrances to town, both provided by the Ebensburg Rotary Club. A third sign will be constructed this year at the Route 422 entrance to town, courtesy of the American Legion.



There are still two other planned entrance signs remaining. If any other organization or business wishes to contribute toward the cost of additional entrance signs, contact Dan at the borough office. Other signs are planned on South Center Street near the former middle school and North Center Street near Agway.

WATER, SEWER, GARBAGE BILL PAYMENTS

Remember that there are several methods to conveniently pay your bi-monthly utility bills to the borough. You can have your bi-monthly utility bills drafted automatically from your checking account. Just stop by the borough office to get the service established for your account, or find the proper form at www.ebensburgpa.com.



Ebensburg Borough also accepts credit card payments. Payments for your utility bills can be made on-line at www.ebensburgpa.com. Credit card payments are also accepted at the office.

And a new feature—you can now receive your water/sewer bill by e-mail! Simply send an e-mail to Rose Myers at rmyers@ebensburgpa.com requesting that your bill be e-mailed to you in the future.

Ebensburg Borough
300 West High Street
Ebensburg, PA 15931
(814) 472-8780
www.ebensburgpa.com

GARAGE SALE SIGNS

Borough Council has adopted a new ordinance in an effort to limit the number of signs posted around town for garage sales. During the summer months, paper and cardboard signs are stapled to telephone poles and sign posts and never taken down until they blow down. It is not unusual to see a garage sale sign that remains months after the sale.



If you are planning any type of sale on your property, please obtain the proper permit from the borough office. The permits are FREE. The permit process is intended only to make you aware of the rules governing signs, and to make sure that they are removed following the sale.

It's free and easy to comply with the new ordinance. There is a fine for failing to comply, and it is enforced.

New Water Meters

The installation of new water meters and/or radio-read sensors has been completed for nearly all customers. The new meters were required in order to be compatible with our new radio-read metering system. It is now no longer necessary for borough workers to visit each customer to read water meters. The new meter transmits a radio signal to the borough office allowing us to read each water meter at any time. The new system is also capable of recognizing when a customer's flow has increased more than normal, indicating a possible water leak.



Water System Project Update



Ebensburg's \$5.1 million water system improvement project is now completed. New distribution mains have been installed near Mylo Park, in Crestwood Estates and throughout the southeast corner of Ebensburg. A new backwash tank has been constructed at the water treatment plant, and the plant itself received a major upgrade including a much improved filtering system. New control valves were installed throughout the system.

The project resulted in dirty water at times for customers. While valves were being installed, service to many customers was interrupted. Borough Council and the Ebensburg Municipal Authority thank all of you for your patience during the project.

Crosswalk Enforcement

Ebensburg will soon begin a public awareness campaign to improve pedestrian safety. Pennsylvania law requires motorists to yield to pedestrians in crosswalks. Any pedestrian in Ebensburg will tell you that motorists frequently ignore that rule.



New signs are being installed at all Ebensburg crosswalks to clearly indicate the existence of the crosswalk, and to remind motorists to yield to pedestrians. The police department will step up enforcement of the law, with the goal of improving safety for all.

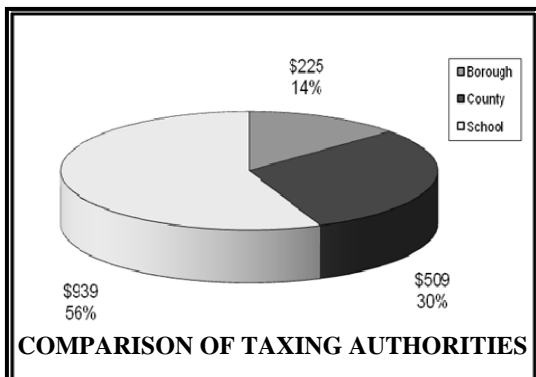
Sewer Smoke Testing

Smoke testing of the sanitary sewer system will continue during 2014. Crews will be working in the eastern section of the borough. Smoke testing is a common tool used to detect defects in sewer lines. You may notice smoke coming from vent stacks and downspouts on houses or from holes in the ground. The gray smoke is non-toxic, non-staining, odorless and creates no fire hazard. Crews may have to enter yards for testing, and will be in borough marked vehicles. Access to homes is not necessary. The smoke should not enter your home unless you have defective plumbing or dried drain traps. Pour a gallon of water into each drain prior to our smoke testing. If smoke does enter your home, notify our work crews in the area. Crews may also be dye testing roof drains and downspouts, and will access those from the roof or the yard. Property owner cooperation is greatly appreciated.

If you have already received a violation notice for an illegal connection, please have the problem corrected immediately. Civil action will soon be filed against property owners that failed to act on violation notices received last year.

Council Adopts Annual Budget

In November, Borough Council adopted the 2014 budget with no increase in taxes or water or sewer rates. There was a small increase in the garbage fee to keep pace with a contractual rate adjustment in the final year of the garbage collection contract. The \$4.9 million spending plan guides the management of the borough throughout the year. The 2014 budget can be viewed at www.ebensburgpa.com.



The average taxpayer pays approximately \$225 (13 mills) per year for borough services. This funds the most basic borough services such as police protection, fire protection, street sweeping, snow plowing, street resurfacing, traffic signals, recreation, leaf collection, playgrounds, street lighting and other similar activities.

These borough services, and the corresponding borough property tax, represent only 14% of the total property tax bill paid by borough taxpayers. Thirty-one (30%) percent of taxes paid by borough taxpayers goes to county government (29.5 mills), and fifty-six (56%) percent goes to the local school district (54.25 mills).



Borough Council Welcomes Newly Elected Members



At the end of 2013, two Council members decided not to seek reelection, and their terms on Council came to an end. Terry Illig had served on Borough Council for 12 years. Deb Nesbella served on Council for a total of 16 years, 8 of those as Council President. Both were recognized for their outstanding service to Ebensburg, and the role that they played in improving our town.

Beginning new terms on Borough Council are Joe Miller and Theresa Jacoby. Council President Doug Tusing was reelected to a new 4-year term. We wish them much success in their endeavors.

EBENSBURG BOROUGH POOL RATES

Pool Opening:
May 24, 2014

POOL HOURS
MONDAY - SATURDAY
12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY
12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Daily Admission Rates	Resident
Adult (19 yrs. - 64 yrs. old)	\$6.00
Child (4 yrs. - 18 yrs. old)	\$4.00
Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$4.00
Twilight (After 6:00 PM)	\$4.00

Resident Rates	2014 Fees
Individual (19 yrs. - 64 yrs. old)	\$120.00
Individual - Child (4 yrs. - 18 yrs. old) / Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$100.00
2 Person Pass	\$160.00
3 Person Pass	\$185.00
4 Person Pass	\$205.00
5 Person Pass	\$225.00
Additional Dependents	\$20.00
Nanny/Babysitter (must be bought in conjunction with a family membership)	\$25.00

Non-Resident Rates	2014 Fees
Individual (19 yrs. - 64 yrs. old)	\$150.00
Individual - Child (4 yrs. - 18 yrs. old) / Senior (65 yrs. +)	\$130.00
2 Person Pass	\$185.00
3 Person Pass	\$205.00
4 Person Pass	\$225.00
5 Person Pass	\$245.00
Additional Dependents	\$20.00
Nanny/Babysitter (must be bought in conjunction with a family membership)	\$25.00

2014 SIDEWALK PROJECTS

Bids will soon be received for the construction of new curbs and sidewalks in three sections of town. This project will complete all State roads within the borough including West High Street between Beech Street and Sheetz, Rowena Drive between Tanner Street and the Lake Rowena bridge, and South Center Street between the courthouse and the Ghost Town Trail.



This project is relatively large. It involves formal design criteria to satisfy PennDOT requirements, new crosswalks and signals, and maintaining access to many businesses. We will not know for sure until the bids are actually received if we can proceed with the project in 2014 or if it will need to be delayed until 2015.

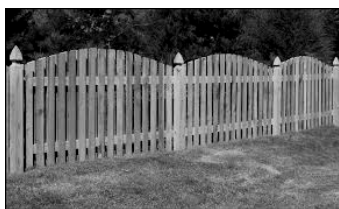
The ongoing sidewalk replacement project has contributed greatly to the rejuvenation of Ebensburg. It is the first thing noticed by those traveling through Ebensburg. It is important that we complete all of the State roads as soon as possible.

Many residents are asking when we will get to their street, and in what order new sidewalks will be installed in other areas. The short answer is, "We don't know." It appears as though the focus has turned to Sample Street, Crawford Street, Horner Street and North Caroline Street. Whether they are done one at a time or all at once is yet to be determined, but it is unlikely that any work on those curbs and sidewalks will occur before 2016.

Residents are reminded that they need not wait for a sidewalk project on their street in order to make their own repairs to their sidewalk. There is no advantage to waiting for the entire street to be done; residents incur the cost either way. If you wish to proceed with your own repairs, simply contact the borough office for guidance. We will make sure that your new sidewalk is compatible with our own plans, so that our future project meets up perfectly with your own.

REMINDER

Property owners are required to obtain a permit BEFORE...



1. Erecting any signs
2. Installing a new driveway or cutting a curb
3. Erecting any fences
4. Constructing a garage or erecting a shed (even a kit)

In most cases, it will not be necessary to acquire a building permit, but make sure first! At a minimum, zoning approval IS REQUIRED!

Please check with the borough office before beginning any project.



Shoveling Sidewalks

Keeping our sidewalks free of ice and snow is the neighborly thing to do, and it's the law. For your own benefit and to help your neighbors, people pushing strollers or using wheelchairs, and the many people in Ebensburg who walk, please do your part.

Ebensburg Borough Ordinance requires that property owners clear sidewalks after the end of a snowfall within 12 hours.

When you shovel snow and clear ice

- Shovel the sidewalks on all sides of your property, the full width of the sidewalk down to the bare pavement.
- Remove all ice from sidewalks. After the sidewalk is cleared, sprinkling a little sand can help prevent slipping on frosty sidewalks.
- Pile snow into your yard. It's against the law to shovel snow into streets and alleys.
- If you have corner property, clear curb cuts at corners and crosswalks to the street gutter.

Avoid a ticket

- If the Borough receives a complaint or discovers that a sidewalk is not properly cleared, the property owner will be issued a citation with a fine.

Remember

- You are responsible for clearing ice on your sidewalks as well as snow. Ice can be more dangerous and intimidating than snow.
- The sooner and more completely you shovel, the less likely ice will form.
- Arrange for someone to shovel while you are on vacation.

Need help?

- Make arrangements in advance to have a friend, neighbor or firm take care of your shoveling for you.

Want to go the extra mile?

- Are there neighbors on your street who are elderly, have a disability or may have a hard time shoveling for any reason? Work with your neighbors to give a hand and ensure your entire block is safe and accessible to all.

FERAL CAT COMPLAINTS

An unusual number of complaints are being received about wild, or feral, cats in town. Some complain that neighbors are feeding the cats, thus the cats hang around the neighborhood and multiply. Some complain about the cat feces in yards.

As in most cases, there are two sides to this issue. On one side, cat advocates are intrigued, amused and captivated by cats. They feel that feeding the cats is the humane thing to do. On the other side, wildlife conservationists are alarmed at the growing number of feral cats. The cats, actually an invasive species to North America, kill wildlife and birds (while cat numbers are rising, nearly 1/3 of the 800 species of birds in the US are endangered). They are concerned that cats can spread rabies and other viral disease.

Cat advocates promote an effort referred to as "TNR", or Trap-Neuter-Release. The cats are trapped, taken to a veterinarian to be spayed and vaccinated, and then returned to the wild, preferable in a more remote area. They profess that of 25 documented cases of rabies in the US between 2001 and 2007, none were caused by cats.

Both sides do seem to agree that there is no reason to feel that cats must be "rescued" from their outdoor existence. Cats have always lived outdoors and flourished. They are scavengers by nature, and do not require your care or feeding.

Borough Council does not wish to get involved in the debate regarding cats. Some municipalities in Pennsylvania have adopted strict "cat feeding" ordinances which essentially considers anyone that feeds feral cats to now be the owner of the cat, and requires the cat to be spayed and vaccinated. Other municipalities promote TNR programs.

Council here suggests that residents conduct their own research, and make their own decisions concerning any problems with feral cats. The Borough does have several traps that we will loan out to residents that wish to trap cats. Be aware that the killing of a cat is a violation of anti-cruelty laws in all 50 states.



PLAYGROUND UPDATES

The upgrades to playgrounds at Lake Rowena and the swimming pool are completed. New swing sets were installed near the Lake Field, and the old wood bleachers were replaced with aluminum. Old swing sets at two sites along Lake Rowena and at the swimming pool were replaced. New swinging benches were also installed at Jenck's Dam.



DOWNTOWN FLOWERS

Flower pots have been placed along the 100-200 blocks of S. Center Street and the 100-200 blocks of W. High Street. We'd like to thank the following businesses who made this project possible by committing to plant flowers each spring and care for them through the year: Aglow, Amici's Ristorante, Cambria Thrift, Edgar Snyder & Associates, Everyday Gourmet, First National Bank, High Street Emporium, Recklyss Image Tattoo, Rik-N-Nik's, Office of Attorney Jim Stratton, and Pour on Center.



Jenck's Dam



The small pond at the rear of the swimming pool is known as "Jenck's Dam". A project was begun in 2013 to make improvements to the dam and to promote it as a recreational asset to the borough.

Named for S. H. (Serry Henry) Jencks, former Chief Engineer for the Cambria & Indiana Railroad, the old dam was overgrown with weeds and rarely used. The spillway was obstructed with debris. Mr. Jencks was President of Ebensburg Borough Council, lived at 318 East High Street, and died in 1948.

In 2013, we cleared the spillway of all debris. The area already looks much better, and complements the swimming pool facility. The first of several treatments to eliminate the weeds in the dam was applied. In 2014, with the cooperation of the Fish Commission, the dam will be stocked and designated as "catch & release" for children.

Often times, small children become discouraged with fishing because they didn't catch anything on their first trip. We hope that Jenck's Dam can become that perfect place for children to be introduced to fishing, and encourage them to become successful anglers.

* **SPECIAL** *

PURCHASE 3 MONTHS & RECEIVE THE 4TH FREE!

PURCHASE 10 MONTHS AND RECEIVE 2 FOR FREE!

Regular exercise, proper nutrition, stress management and other good lifestyle habits are more important to you now than ever before.

At the same time, it is more difficult to find the time in today's fast-paced society to focus on your physical fitness and wellness. The Ebensburg Borough Health & Wellness Facility is ideal for those who can devote three to five hours a week to improving their physical fitness because it offers first-rate equipment in an intimate state-of-the-art facility at very low fees.

Monthly Gym Membership Fees:

Single/Adult.....	\$22.00
Seniors (55 yrs.+).....	\$15.00
Students.....	\$15.00

Family Rate:

2 Adults + 1 Student: \$45
(\$10 for each additional student)

YPCC Aerobic Class Schedule

The following is a schedule of the "Fit Happens" aerobic classes held at the Young Peoples Community Center. These classes are in addition to your Fitness Center membership. If you have any questions concerning any of these classes, please see the brief class descriptions below or call the recreation office, (814) 472-4277, for more details. Why not try an aerobic class today and add another dimension to your fitness routine? (Schedule subject to change without notice-monthly schedules available at front desk.)

	MONDAYS	TUESDAYS	WEDNESDAYS	THURSDAYS	FRIDAYS	SATURDAYS
9:00 AM						Burn & Firm
12:15 PM		Butts n' Bellies		Butts n' Bellies		
4:15 PM	Advanced Weight Training		Advanced Weight Training	Advanced Weight Training		
5:30 PM		Burn & Firm	FIX n' MIX	Burn & Firm		
7:00 PM						
7:30 PM	FIX n' MIX	Yoga		FIX n' MIX		

INSTRUCTORS:

Lisa Parkin

Ashley Archangelo

Julie Koren

- ADVANCED WEIGHT TRAINING:** Total body workout for all fitness levels, combining a high/low aerobic workout with traditional step aerobics and weight training.
- BURN & FIRM:** A variety of high impact step aerobics combined with total body strengthening and mat exercises.
- BUTTS N' BELLIES:** Burn serious calories by way of this high energy workout with target toning segments.
- FIX N' MIX:** Challenge yourself with this intense exercise, combining a high aerobic workout with aggressive weight and strength training. Also includes a mixture of strengthening and stretching exercises concentrating on the muscles of the abdominal area, lower back, hips, and buttocks, designed of fitness to improve posture, balance, and flexibility.
- YOGA:** Yoga is a series of movements that help the alignment, flexibility and balance of the body. The instructor will lead you through a series of poses and breathing techniques to achieve total self-awareness of the body and mind.

WINTER WEATHER PROCEDURES

OPPOSITE SIDE PARKING

Remember that "opposite side parking" is in effect from 12/1 to 3/31. From 8 am to 5 pm EVERY day, parking is permitted ONLY on the south and east sides of the streets. Between 5 pm and 8 am, all vehicles are to be moved to the north and west sides of the streets.

BOROUGH STREETS

Remember: Center Street, Highland Avenue, and High Street are State roads and are maintained by PennDOT. The Borough's top priority are the main streets that have the heaviest year-round traffic such as Julian & Caroline Streets and Horner & Ogle Streets.

TIME FRAME FOR CLEARING STREETS

With two trucks on the streets, it takes approximately four hours to cover every street. If snowfall is heavy, the priority is given to the main routes. Smaller streets may wait a long time until the plow eventually gets there.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Our public works department does a terrific job every winter of keeping our streets safe.

Remember that trained crews work round-the-clock during snowstorms. Often times they are working over-time, weekends and holidays to keep the streets open and passable. If there is a problem concerning street conditions, call the Public Works Department at 472-7811.

PREPARING FOR A STORM

Crews are often dispatched to clear the catch basins so the melting snow can run off. You may wish to avoid a potential problem and also be of assistance to your neighbors by cleaning off the catch basin or shoveling out a nearby fire hydrant.

STAY INSIDE

After a snowstorm, crews have many hours of work to complete their snow clearing operations. The less traffic on the streets means that they will be able to clear more quickly and completely. The Borough will be aware of impending snowstorms and will alert crews beforehand.

DRIVEWAYS

The snowplow WILL deposit snow at the end of your driveway. This is a reality of snowplowing, and it cannot be helped. The Borough cannot shovel ridges or wind rows from your driveway that are left from plowing, nor can crews plow private property.

Booster Club Event Participation



This year, the Ebensburg Main Street Partnership (EMP) received an inordinate number of requests from booster clubs and fundraising groups wanting to participate in each of the community events held throughout the year. As a result, the EMP determined that, in the interest of fairness to all fundraising groups, participation will now only be permitted at the Annual PotatoFest. The PotatoFest is the largest event with the highest number of attendees and the most available space to allow for set-up of numerous vendors. All groups interested in participating will be required to follow the current application guidelines, and all applications will continue to be reviewed and approved by the PotatoFest Committee. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

Ebensburg Welcomes New Tax Collector

Ebensburg Borough welcomes Mr. Liam Anderson who will take over the position of Tax Collector for local services and real estate taxes. Nicole Ream has resigned and accepted a full-time teaching position at Penn State University. Berkheimer Associates will continue to collect annual earned income tax. Questions can be directed to taxoffice@ebensburgpa.com.

Ebensburg Tennis Center

The winter tennis season is in full swing at the Ebensburg Tennis Center. If you are looking to tune up your game or just get started, the center offers individual and group lessons by USPTA certified professional Jamie Taylor.

The tennis center offers court rental for play on the indoor and outdoor courts. The center is open for member and non-member play. Tennis memberships at the Ebensburg Tennis center will provide you with 24-hour access to the facility and an online court reservation book. Listed below are membership costs; memberships are based on an annual fee.

Need a partner to play with? Join one of our "flex" leagues. Play in a singles or doubles league. Leagues are available for players of all ages and ability levels. Play unlimited tennis with our "All You Can Play Pass". Members pay a one-time rate for unlimited play during specific hours, 7 days a week.

Visit the USPTA award winning ebensburgtenniscenter.com or call 814-471-2980.



Single - \$150.00

Family - \$195.00

Junior - \$60.00 (17 and under)

*Out of Town Membership - \$65.00 Single

*Out of Town Membership - \$115.00 Family

*Out of town memberships are for those who live 40 miles away from the center.



PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
ALTOONA, PA
PERMIT #150

Ebensburg Community Events

Wine Time in the Mainline

Sponsored by Ebensburg Rotary Club
February 22, 1pm - 4pm & 5pm - 8pm
Young Peoples Community Center

16th Annual 'Art in Bloom' Spring Art Show*

Saturday, April 26th, 12pm - 6pm &
Sunday, April 27th, 11am - 4pm
Cambria County Courthouse

HeartChase

Hosted by the American Heart Association
April 26th, 9am - 11am
www.heartchase.org
Young Peoples Community Center

10th Annual 'Wheels & Wings'*

Thursday, June 26th, 5pm - 10pm
Downtown Ebensburg

Downtown Shutdown*

Friday, July 25th, 6pm - 11pm
Center of Downtown Ebensburg

Ebensburg Homecoming*

Saturday, July 26th, ALL DAY
Ebensburg Area & Lake Rowena

Farmer's Market*

Every Saturday, 9am - 12pm
July - September 20th
Penn Eben Park

Concerts in the Park*

August 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 6pm - 9pm
Penn Eben Park

Cambria County Fair

Always Labor Day Week

August 31 - September 6
Cambria County Fairgrounds

23rd Annual PotatoFest*

Saturday, September 27th, 9am - 5pm
Downtown Ebensburg

5th Annual Ebensburg Turkey Trot

Hosted by Ebensburg Area Running Club
Thursday, November 27th
www.ebensburgrunners.org

9th Annual Dickens of a Christmas*

Friday, December 5th - December 7th
Downtown Ebensburg

**Sponsored by Ebensburg Main Street Partnership*

www.ebensburgmainstreet.com

Interested in volunteering? Call 472-8414