



# EBENSBURG BULLETIN

Official Publication of Ebensburg Borough



January 2010

## SEWAGE BILLS TO DECREASE

Ebensburg sewage customers will see a significant drop in their overall bills later in 2010. That's when an old PENNVEST loan finally matures. The loan's maturity will allow the last rate increase adopted in 2005 to be rolled back completely. The bi-monthly base rate will drop from \$68.50 to \$54.50 and the usage rate will drop from \$6.07 to \$4.65/1,000 gal. That's an 18% decrease in sewage rates!

Conversely, while wastewater expenses will decrease drastically, water system rates will slightly increase. Near the end of 2010, the loan payment on an old project loan will increase by \$24,000 annually. There will also be an increased

focus beginning in 2010 on small-scale water improvement projects. At the same time that the above significant reduction in wastewater rates is implemented, a small increase in water rates will take effect. The bi-monthly base rate would increase from \$33.50 to 35.60. The usage rate would increase from \$4.33 to \$4.65/1,000 gal. The effect will be a 5% increase in water rates.

The total effect of the two rate adjustments is an overall 9% decrease in utility rates. For the minimum user, that saves \$11.90 each billing. For the average customer, the adjustment will save just over \$17 each billing. The drop in utility rates will occur in the fall of 2010.

## MARKETING CAMPAIGN AIMS TO BRING PEOPLE TO TOWN

In late 2009, Borough Council launched a marketing campaign showcasing Ebensburg Borough. We hope to sell Ebensburg to potential businesses and new homeowners. Residents have probably already noticed an increase in exposure on local television, radio and newspapers. The marketing campaign includes newspaper and

billboard ads, increased advertising of events, and attendance at area conferences and expos. Residents can assist in the ongoing efforts to promote Ebensburg by projecting a positive image, keeping properties well maintained, spreading the word about Ebensburg's events, volunteering to help out with events and projects, etc.

"I wouldn't live anywhere else," said Rebecca Carlin, 2009 Christmas Parade Marshal. "What makes Ebensburg so nice is the relationships that people have with one another and the effect they have on the atmosphere of the town."

The picture featured to the left is a copy of the display board that continues to be used to promote town. It was created by L. Robert Kimball & Associates and features many of the assets we have to offer.

If you believe Ebensburg is a great place to live, work and play, help spread the word!

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**Inside this issue:**

*New Mayor Spotlight* 2

*Concerts in the Park* 3

*Sidewalk Project* 4

*Pool Renovation* 4

*New Codes Enforcement* 5

*Recreation* 6

*Event Schedule* 8

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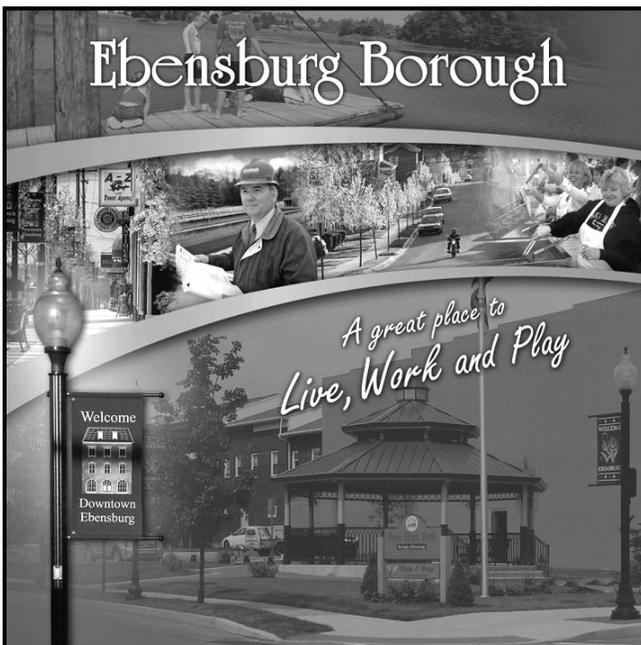
**Borough Council**

Deborah Nesbella, President  
Doug Tusing, Vice President

Susan Barber  
Terry Illig  
Dave Kuhar  
Joe Lutz  
V. Joseph Miller  
Annie Takas  
(Junior Councilor)

Mayor Randy Datsko

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**Ebensburg Borough**  
**300 West High Street**  
**Ebensburg, PA 15931**  
**(814) 472-8780**  
[www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com)

## **DATSKO TAKES OVER AS MAYOR**

Since 1974, Ebensburg Borough has had only two mayors. Mike Tsikalas was elected in 1973, and served from January 1974 through 1993. Charlie Moyer ran for mayor in 1993, when Tsikalas did not seek re-election, and began in 1994. He served 16 years as mayor (and also 20 years on borough council).

“There is a certain amount of pride that a Mayor feels being the representative and voice of the community,” said Moyer. “A mayor enjoys the privilege of serving the citizens, and knowing that when any of those citizens have a borough related problem he/she can be counted on for help. It is not a job that is easy to walk away from.”

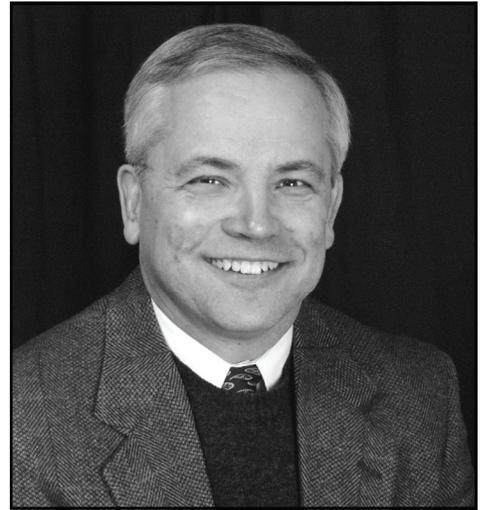
Randy Datsko is our new mayor. He is excited about the new role and hopes to continue the efforts of Tsikalas and Moyer.

“I look forward to continuing the positive and progressive image that Ebensburg has,” said Datsko. “I will put my best foot forward as the mayors have done in the past.”

Datsko said it was the positive results of many questions he had asked that led him to this new role.

“When Charlie announced that he was not running again, I was approached by a council member to see if I would be interested,” said Datsko. “I then talked to Charlie and many others about the position and gathered nothing but positive feedback.”

Ebensburg Borough welcomes Randy as our new mayor and hopes that he will continue the tradition of serving the community for many years to come.



### **Randy Datsko, Mayor**

- ◆ Age: 56
- ◆ Regional Representative for Church Mutual Insurance Company
- ◆ Missionary/Director of Western PA Prison Outreach Ministry
- ◆ Grew up in Mylo and has lived in the borough for 31 years
- ◆ Married to Cindy and has 3 boys
- ◆ Served 12 years on borough council

(814) 472-2212

[mayor@ebensburgpa.com](mailto:mayor@ebensburgpa.com)



## **PROPERTY PURCHASE**

In 2009, Borough Council agreed to purchase the former Babcock Lumber property on South West Street for \$95,000. The 1½ acre site contains two large storage buildings that the borough will use for storage of equipment that is not necessary to house at the main garage. Some of that equipment is seasonal such as snow plows, salt spreaders, a leaf vacuum and street sweeper. The site will also be used to stockpile materials such as topsoil, stone and gravel, pipe and road salt. A grant has been acquired to raze the front office building and kiln. That is expected to occur this summer. The borough will then improve the site to complement the Ghost Town Trail and Memorial Field.

# 2009 vs. 2010

2009 was a very busy year in Ebensburg Borough. Borough Council replaced several pieces of equipment and vehicles during the past year. Those purchases include a new 4-wheel drive police vehicle, a new tractor mower, two new pickup trucks, and replacement of a backhoe and front-end loader. Projects completed include the West Ogle Street sidewalks with improved stormwater system, improved drainage and new bleachers at Memorial Field, interconnection of water systems with Croyle Township, and several improvements to the water treatment and distribution systems.

While other municipalities are struggling just to meet day-to-day expenses, Ebensburg Borough is continuing to move forward and make improvements. Borough officials believe that an ongoing capital improvement program is essential to Ebensburg's future, and that efforts must continue through these difficult economic times.

Improvements have been budgeted in the various departments of borough government in 2010. One additional full-time officer has been added in the police department. The public works department will undertake a street paving project, replace the street name signs with larger lettering, and make repairs to the Tanner Street bridge. The water department will interconnect several dead end water lines and install new filters and valves at the treatment plant. One of the water department's trucks will be replaced. The recreation department will upgrade the pool bathhouse and install new playground equipment at Lake Rowena. The wastewater department will continue efforts to eliminate infiltration from the sewage collection system.

While times are tough, Ebensburg Borough is able to continue to invest in its future by employing strict budgetary compliance and fiscal restraint.



## **CONCERTS IN THE PARK WILL CONTINUE**

A series of free concerts in Penn Eben Park highlighted the summer of 2009. The concerts were suggested by residents in the last resident survey, and Borough Council listened.

Sponsored by the Ebensburg Area Business Commission and Main Street Partnership, the concerts will once again run every Friday evening in August in Penn Eben Park.

"New this year, the concerts will be an hour longer," said Christine Strugala, Community Development Director. "Because they were so successful, performers will now play from 6pm until 9pm."

The line-up of entertainers will be announced in the coming months. Please continue to check the borough's website ([www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com)) and local newspapers for more information!

**[www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com)**

The Borough's website won 1st place in the PA State Association of Borough's website contest! Each year, the *Borough News* magazine of PSAB awards a website with top honors for providing a comprehensive and easy-to-use website. We are proud of our site and update it on a daily basis. You will find everything from contact information and policies to building permit applications and council minutes. We encourage you to periodically visit the site for updates and important information.



## **UPCOMING SIDEWALK PROJECT**

Ebensburg's efforts to undertake new sidewalk improvements will continue in 2010. New sidewalks and curbs will be installed along both sides of North Center Street between the downtown and the middle school, and along most of East Highland Avenue. The project will also include the extension of Victorian streetlights along North Center Street, and repairs to catch basins at Horner Street. The project is expected to begin as soon as weather allows and be completed by the end of summer.

Plans have also been completed for a sidewalk project along East High Street and Rowena Drive, between the downtown and Lake Rowena. That project qualifies for special grant funding, and Borough Council hopes to see that project move forward as well in 2010 or 2011.



North Center Street



**A new resident survey has been mailed to all residents. Please help us to improve Ebensburg Borough by sharing your ideas, concerns and suggestions. The last resident survey was conducted in 2006. The surveys have always been a source of good ideas, and a reliable barometer of how local government services are being provided. It's not too late to return your survey and to participate in future projects!**

## Ebensburg Borough Swimming Pool

### Renovation Project



By now everyone should be aware of Borough Council's plans to improve Ebensburg's swimming pool. Ebensburg's swimming pool was originally constructed in 1938, making it one of the oldest pools in the state. Over the years it has received partial replacement of the gutters, filtration system and piping; but 70 years later it remains much the same as when originally built. It is long overdue for a major makeover.

This is an expensive project, estimated at \$1,000,000. Council expects to receive a grant for \$300,000 of that cost, and the project cannot begin until a grant is actually secured. The grant was not approved in the 2009 round of grants, and we hope to receive approval later in 2010.

Borough officials are excited about this project to overhaul one of the most used recreational facilities in the region, and judging from comments received, residents are very excited too. In addition to bringing the pool up to current codes and standards, the improvements are intended to increase use at the facility. The new pool will be popular with young and old alike.

A committee of volunteers has been formed to raise the necessary matching funds. This is an important project for the Ebensburg area, and everyone is encouraged to participate in efforts to make our swimming pool the facility that it should be.



### **NEW AGENCY TO HANDLE BOROUGH CODES ENFORCEMENT**

Borough council has approved a 1-year agreement with Middle Department Inspection Agency of Wexford, PA to provide building codes enforcement within the borough.

It was the intent of the Central Cambria Coalition to form a single codes enforcement agency, however, there is a shortage of qualified and certified individuals to fill the position at this time.

Although members will continue to search for the right person for the job, MDIA will be used for at least 2010.

All permits can still be obtained at [www.ebensburgpa.com](http://www.ebensburgpa.com) or at the borough office. Although, checks will need to be made out to MDIA.

Under the new arrangement, the Borough Manager will be responsible for all zoning and property maintenance enforcement. If a local enforcement officer is eventually hired, he/she will then assume that responsibility as planned.

It is important to note that MDIA will have constant contact with the borough and will stop in every other day to pick up and process applications. The building permit fees with MDIA are generally 15-20% lower than those previously charged.

# Stoltz Hired as Full-Time Police Officer

Scott Stoltz is the newest full-time police officer with the Ebensburg Borough Police Department.

Officer Stoltz has been a part-time police officer for Ebensburg Borough since 2005, and was the Chief of Police of South Fork Borough.

Officer Stoltz holds an Associate Degree in Psychology, and is currently enrolled in a Bachelor of Science program for Criminal Justice Administration. He is a graduate of the Greater Johnstown Police Academy and is Act #120 certified.



**“Scott has worked for the Borough of Ebensburg since April 2005 as a part-time officer,” said Police Chief Terry Wyland. “Scott has been an exceptional officer and is an asset to the police department. He has experience in all areas of law enforcement. I welcome him as a full-time officer and look forward to working with him on a full-time basis.”**

Residents are reminded that Ebensburg Borough is continuing a DEP-required testing of residential and commercial sewage systems. The tests are intended to detect any connections that are allowing infiltration into the sewage system.

Infiltration is caused by sources of stormwater being illegally discharged into the sanitary sewer system. These sources can be downspouts, driveway drains, footer drains, and leaking service laterals. Borough crews will be smoke-testing sections of town. Smoke is pumped into the sanitary sewer system under pressure and then rises out of any illegal tap identifying the locations of any drains, downspouts and leaks. Property owners that have any such illegal sources of infiltration will be required to pay to have corrections made.

The smoke may on occasion enter buildings. That could happen if your sewage traps are empty or lacking. The smoke is non-toxic and leaves no residue. We will try our best to notify property owners in advance of any testing in your area. You will want to watch the local newspaper for any notices. The testing will occur in a specific section of town each year over the next five years.





## UPCOMING PROGRAMS...

**YPCCISL** is an instructional/recreational league that is an ideal way for young and old players to learn the game of indoor soccer and improve upon their fundamentals and/or skills. YPCCISL operates indoor soccer programs where "Balanced Teams" are created and "Everyone Plays Equally". The goal of this program is to ensure every child comes away with a positive experience regardless of age, gender, or level of skill.



(814) 472-4277  
[www.yppccrec.com](http://www.yppccrec.com)

YPCCISL (6 game season)  
K through 1st Grade (co-ed teams) - Tuesdays  
2nd Grade through 4th Grade (co-ed teams) - Mondays  
5th Grade through 8th Grade (co-ed teams) - Tuesdays

February 15 through March 6  
Member \$22.00  
Non-Member \$25.00  
(\$15.00 for each additional sibling.)



### Iddy Biddy Baseball

Iddy Biddy Baseball is a developmentally appropriate introductory baseball program for children 3-5 years old. The program prepares children for organized tee ball, baseball and softball in a fun non-threatening environment.

Iddy Biddy Baseball prepares children and their parents for organized baseball and softball in a safe environment. Age appropriate equipment from Franklin Sports® and Hasbro® is used in teaching throwing, catching, batting, running and agility.

3 to 5 years old / Mondays / March 22 thru April 26, 2010 / 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM  
Member \$36.00 Non-Member \$40.00



There is no better time to start playing tennis at the Ebensburg Tennis Center! The center offers three heated indoor tennis courts and play is available to both members and non-members. Members have access to the facility 24 hrs./day via a key fob entry system.

No practice partner? The tennis center has a state of the art tennis ball machine. Join us for league play or one of our tennis socials.

In February, the third annual "Team Tennis Tournament" will be held! This annual event draws people from all over Western Pennsylvania. There are categories for adults and juniors, and the format is fun and accommodates players of all levels.

On February 13, 2010 there will be a FREE adult and junior tennis clinic. No experience is necessary. Tennis rackets and balls will be provided. Call or drop by the center to register.

Any questions about lessons, leagues, socials or any of the programs offered at the center visit our website at [www.ebensburgtenniscenter.com](http://www.ebensburgtenniscenter.com) or call 471-2980.



## Ebensburg Main Street Partnership Members

Action Gas  
 Adams & Assoc. Counseling Services, PC  
 Advanced Regional Center for Ankle & Foot Care  
 Advanced Shipping Technologies  
 Advantage Foot Care Assoc.  
 Aflac  
 Allegheny Chesapeake Physical Therapy  
 Alternative Community Resource Programs  
 American Forestry Consultants  
 American Legion Post 363  
 American National Property & Casualty  
 AmeriServ Financial  
 Appledale Public Golf Course, Inc.  
 Askew-Houser Funeral Homes, Inc.  
 A-Z Travel Agency  
 Believer's Fellowship Family Church  
 Bill Cox / The Prave Building  
 Bishop Carroll Catholic High School  
 Brouse Family Chiropractic  
 CAPCC WIC Program  
 C & J FALCHINI, INC.  
 Cambria Cogen Company  
 Cambria County Assoc. for the Blind/Handicapped  
 Cambria County Child Development Corp.  
 Cambria County Fairground  
 Cambria County Industrial Development Corp.  
 Cambria County Transit Authority (CamTran +)  
 Cambria Thrift Consumer Discount Company  
 CAMCO  
 Century 21 Strayer & Associates, Inc.  
 Claire Terese Photography  
 Clark Powell's Restaurant  
 Coca-Cola Bottling Co. of Eastern Great Lakes  
 Comfort Inn  
 Computer Shop  
 Copy Tech Office Systems, Inc.  
 Corporate Care Services  
 Country Garden 6-Pack  
 Country Sisters  
 Cresson Lake Playhouse  
 Crichton Rehabilitation Ebensburg  
 Crossroads Meadow  
 Curves - Ebensburg  
 Custom Plus Windows & Home Improvements  
 D.I.G. Contracting  
 Damin Printing Company  
 Decker Diamond Jewelers  
 Don Williamson Apartments  
 Dr. Gregory M. Zawrotny, DMD  
 Dr. Joseph M. Cavalier, Orthodontist  
 Dr. Robert Maruca  
 Ebensburg Ace Hardware  
 Ebensburg Agway  
 Ebensburg Animal Hospital  
 Ebensburg Cambria Public Library  
 Ebensburg Country Club  
 Ebensburg Dairy Queen, LLC  
 Ebensburg Fishing & Hunting  
 Ebensburg Giant Eagle  
 Ebensburg Insurance Agency  
 Ebensburg Mini Mall  
 Ebensburg Music Mart TV & Electronics  
 Ebensburg NAPA Auto Parts  
 Ebensburg Office Supply, Inc.  
 Ebensburg Woman's Club  
 Eckenrod's Towing  
 Edgar Snyder & Associates  
 Edge Radio AM 1400 & AM 850  
 Em's Sub Shop  
 Estep Realty Service  
 Evans-Lantzy Insurance

Evergreen Insurance Associates, LLC  
 Express Yourself - Pages & Light  
 First Commonwealth Bank  
 First General Services  
 First National Bank  
 First United Church of Christ  
 Frank Slavinski, ChFC, CLU - State Farm Ins. Agent  
 Franklin Street Pediatrics / Ebg. Comm. Health Center  
 Frost Bites Ice Cream & Treats  
 Garfield Thomas Jr. VFW Post 4963  
 George Gvozdich, Jr. Law Offices  
 Gittings Security & Private Investigations, Inc.  
 Gold Rush Diamonds & Boutique  
 Good Shepherd Bookstore & Gifts  
 Goodwill Industries of the Conemaugh Valley, Inc.  
 Great Land & Water Co. DBA: Festival Beverage  
 Greater Johnstown/Cambria Co. Chamber of Commerce, Inc.  
 Griffith & Gress Oral Surgery, P.C.  
 H & R Block  
 Hair Expressions By Tracy  
 Hall of Fame Apparel  
 HealthSouth  
 High Street Emporium  
 Home Appliance Service and Top Hat Cleaners  
 Hoover's Garage, LLC  
 Illig Telephone Sales & Service, Inc.  
 Infocon Corporation  
 Italian Village Pizza  
 It's Worth Repeating  
 Kaza Fire Equipment Company  
 Kentucky Fried Chicken  
 Kerry W. Kirsch, DDS PC  
 Keystone Rehabilitation Systems  
 King's Springs Farm Bed & Breakfast  
 Kosta's Restaurant  
 Kukucka Photography  
 L. Robert Kimball & Associates  
 Lakeview Motel  
 Laurel Crest Rehabilitation & Special Care Center  
 Laurel Medical Supplies  
 Leonard Insurance Agency  
 Long's Hardwoods, Inc.  
 M & M Used Furniture Barn  
 MacLaughlin Pest Control  
 Mainline National Bank  
 Mainline Newspapers  
 Martin Oil Company  
 Mary Kay Cosmetics/Jacqueline Mazeika, Consultant  
 Mastrine's Auto Repair  
 Matevish & Matevish Funeral Home  
 McAneny Brothers, Inc.  
 McCall Motors  
 Mid's Candy & Gifts  
 Nagle Excavating  
 New Covenant Industries, Inc.  
 Northwest Savings Bank  
 Northwestern Human Services-Cambrian Hills  
 Nulton Properties  
 O'hara's Sign & Paint Supply  
 Organization of Professional Referrals  
 Otto-Mart Sales & Service  
 Oyaski Rentals  
 PA CareerLink Cambria County / Goodwill Industries  
 Pampered Chef/Cindy Rumbaugh, Indep. Consultant  
 Pandya, Inc.  
 Parkview Apartments  
 Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center  
 Paul Felix, Jr. Construction  
 Pawlowski, Bilonick, Homady & Long  
 Pennsylvania Highlands Comm. College - Ebg. Educ. Ctr.  
 Perfect Ten Nail Boutique  
 Philip M. Woo, Jr., DMD, MAGD, PC

Precision Business Solutions  
 Premier Podiatry Group  
 Rebekah Manor Wellness Community  
 Ripley Rentals  
 Rotary Club of Ebensburg  
 Rouses Flower Shop  
 Saint Francis University  
 Scanlan Electric, Inc.  
 Sears Hometown Store  
 SeniorLIFE  
 Severn Trent Environmental Services  
 Seymour & Pettina Investment Consulting Group  
 Shaklee - Jim & Karen Hurtack, Indep. Distributors  
 Shear Perfection Hairstyling & Tanning  
 Sheetz, Inc.  
 Sloan Law Office, P.C.  
 Smorto, Persio, Webb, & McGill Law Offices  
 Southern Alleghenies Advertising, Inc.  
 Specialty Promotions, Inc.  
 State Farm Insurance / Kim Springer  
 State Representative Frank Burns  
 Strayer & Sokira LLC. Mortgage Brokers  
 The Burns Law Firm  
 The Castle Pub  
 The Cottage Restaurant & Red Carpet Inn  
 The Long Barn, Inc.  
 The Meadows Original Frozen Custard  
 The Noon-Collins Inn  
 The Vernon Company - Dave Kelly, Account Representative  
 Thompson's Clothing  
 Three Wire Systems, Inc.  
 Tibbott's Pharmacy / Ebensburg Cleaners  
 Traders Guide  
 True Carpentry  
 Trustmont Financial Group, Inc.  
 U.S. Air Force; Ebensburg Recruiter  
 UniFirst Corporation  
 Vale Wood Farms  
 Valley Orthopedics, Inc.  
 Veronica's Nail Salon  
 Wal-Mart  
 Wessel & Company  
 William Inn & Restaurant  
 Winterset Kennels  
 Wise Trailer Sales  
 Wonder Hostess Outlet  
 Woodland Park, Inc.  
 WorkLink Staffing



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### **ART IN BLOOM SPRING ART SHOW**

April 24 (noon – 6pm) & 25 (11am – 4pm)



### **WHEELS & WINGS**

Thursday, June 24th (5pm-10pm)



### **EBENSBURG HOMECOMING**

Saturday, July 31st (all day)

### **EBENSBURG FARMERS MARKET**

Saturdays from 9am – Noon (July 31st – Sept. 18th)  
Penn Eben Park



SHOTS & STOGIES

### **CONCERTS IN THE PARK**

Every Friday in August from 6pm-9pm  
Penn Eben Park

POTATOFEST



### **“SHOTS & STOGIES” GOLF TOURNAMENT**

Friday, September 3rd - Ebensburg Country Club

### **EBENSBURG POTATOFEST**

Saturday, September 25th (9am-5pm)



### **DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS**

December 3rd - 5th

Please visit [www.ebensburgmainstreet.com](http://www.ebensburgmainstreet.com) for more information!