



EBENSBURG BULLETIN

Official Publication of Ebensburg Borough



SURVEY RESULTS YIELD POSITIVE FEEDBACK

July 2010

The results of the 2010 Citizen Survey have been tallied and are available at www.ebensburgpa.com.

95% favorable rating to the Quality of Life in Ebensburg

99% feel safe from violent crime

94% feel safe from lesser property crimes

99% feel safe from fire

90% support new sidewalks, street trees, Penn Eben Park and other efforts

92% agree that Ebensburg is headed in the right direction on the road to improvement

95% agree that Ebensburg provides excellent recreational opportunities for our youth

The proposed swimming pool project was a big question in this year's survey.

- ◆ 64% of residents not only supported the project, but also a tax increase to fund it. Many of those qualified their support for a tax increase by asking it to be small.
- ◆ 22% supported the project, but did not support a tax increase to fund it.
- ◆ 13% did not support the project at all.

Borough Manager Dan Penatzer said concerning the survey, "We conduct the survey every four to five years and always receive lots of good ideas. It was because of the last survey four years ago that we now have two recycling days each month, concerts in the park, a fitness center at the YPCC, a skate park, restrooms at Lake Rowena and many other improvements." The Manager and Borough Council will consider each and every suggestion made in this year's survey.

Some of those new suggestions already being worked on include expanded programming for adults and seniors, improved snow removal methods, alternatives to clearing sidewalks of snow, improvements at the YPCC, and a registry for event volunteers.

SEE SURVEY, PAGE 2

Project Completed

The contractor on North Center Street and East Highland Avenue did an excellent job this year, completing the sidewalk project weeks ahead of schedule. The project includes new Victorian streetlights between Sample Street and Highland Avenue.

New trees will be planted along both streets later this fall. The trees cannot be transplanted until late October. Both streets will be lined with hybrid elm trees. They do not grow as large as the American Elm, and they are not susceptible to disease.

Borough Council continues to seek funding 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 in 2011.

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Borough Council

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(Junior Councilor)

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

SURVEY

A few complaints come up in each and every survey we conduct:

1. We Need More Stores Downtown

Many of us fondly remember when downtowns were the retail hub of any area. That isn't the case anymore, and it won't change. People do their shopping at the mall or "big box" stores. Ebensburg had a grocery store, but residents chose to shop at Wal-Mart or Giant Eagle. Small stores selling such items as jewelry, clothing, sporting goods, etc. cannot compete with the larger chains. Despite anyone's efforts, a downtown will not be able to attract stores as we knew them years ago. The reason the vacancy rate in Ebensburg's downtown remains low and the activity is still high is because we have concentrated on converting Ebensburg into a service center rather than a retail center. While we still have some specialty shops, Ebensburg's storefronts are filled with professional offices and service-related businesses. The downtown areas of other towns have died because, instead of making the effort to fill offices and storefronts and accept change, local leaders there are still hoping that new stores will just show up. It's not going to happen, and wishing won't make it so. The best we can do here is to continue our ongoing efforts to keep our storefronts filled, promote Ebensburg as a service center, and patronize and support the businesses and stores that we do have.



2. There Are Too Many Trucks In Town

We all agree. The trucks are dirty and loud. They are a real inconvenience in any residential community. But complaining about trucks in Ebensburg is like complaining about the weather; there isn't really anything we can do about it.

The Borough has no authority to tell trucks where they can and cannot go. Route #22 provides a by-pass around town for much of the traffic but it is a longer route, it involves traffic lights at the bottom of a hill, and the trucks cannot be forced to use it.

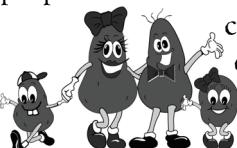
Borough Council considered taking over state-owned High Street and Center Street from PennDOT with the intention of imposing its own restrictions. Under the law, it would have made no difference. For example, weight restrictions could not be imposed on either road without a formal engineering analysis that declared the roads could not support truck traffic. Everyone knows though that both roads can in fact support truck traffic. They were originally constructed as a concrete highway. If we could demonstrate that the truck traffic was damaging underground utilities, that could be an option. We rarely though have water leaks under those two roads. If we could demonstrate a safety concern with a pattern of accidents, that could be another option. But when was the last accident on either road that involved a truck? So even if the borough assumed ownership of Center Street and High Street, we would not be permitted to impose any regulations limiting truck traffic.

We are often asked about limiting the use of "jake brakes" on the trucks. We are not permitted to do that either. A jake brake is a recognized safety device on a truck. It is intended to slow the truck down without undue wear on the conventional brakes; but they are loud. If the grade of a hill is less than a certain percent slope, we could restrict jake brakes. But the hill going down East High Street is too steep, and we are not permitted to impose the restriction."

Truck traffic is a problem in Ebensburg; there is no denying that. We feel every possible solution has been thoroughly studied and considered.

3. PotatoFest and/or Other Downtown Events Should Be More Than One Day

A committee of around a dozen volunteers works tirelessly throughout each year to prepare for PotatoFest every September. It is a huge undertaking and very labor intensive. In addition to all of the work that goes into getting ready for the festival as a whole, there is a tremendous amount of work that goes into the preparation for the committee's food booth; this takes many days and very long hours. We have discussed having PotatoFest for two straight days, but the committee simply feels they cannot take on anymore. In order to extend it another day, twice as much entertainment would need to be booked and paid for, twice as much food would need to be prepared for the food booth, etc. Also, security overnight would need to be sought and High and Center Sts. would be shut down for two straight days. The committee also feels that people who want to come to PotatoFest will come no matter if it is one day or two; if it is two days, then they will just choose which day to come.





4. Snowplowing Complaints

Our public works employees do a terrific job every winter of keeping our streets safe and clear. This past winter we received an unusually high number of complaints. But, we all know we had an unusually harsh winter with heavy snowfall over extended periods of weeks. The record snowfall even resulted in a Federal Declaration of Emergency.

Some complained that the streets were not plowed full width curb-to-curb. Others complained that at times we did not plow the alternate side of the street after cars were moved from one side to the other. We agree we need to do a better job in those areas.

Some said that the plow deposited snow into freshly shoveled driveways and sidewalks; there is nothing that can be done about that. That's just the nature of snowplowing. The driver certainly doesn't do it on purpose. The plowed snow will exit the right side of the plow, and it's going to end up on your sidewalk and driveway.

Some complained that it takes too long for the snowplow to get to their street. With two trucks on the street 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.

Our crews work long hard hours during snowplowing under difficult circumstances. Often times they are working overtime, on their weekends, and during holidays when the rest of us are with our families. We should all be appreciative of their efforts, especially during an unusual winter like this past one.

5. Events at the YPCC are Disorganized

The YPCC has seen tremendous growth throughout its eight years of existence. It originally provided programs and activities exclusively for the youth of our community. As years went by, participation grew at a tremendous rate and we even began

expanding our programs to different age groups.



The YPCC now has a health and wellness facility complete with aerobics classes. The health and wellness facility has grown rapidly solidifying a core group of members who continuously spread the word about our "best kept secret in Ebensburg". Our gym members range from high school students to senior citizens who use the facility on a regular basis.

Our youth basketball leagues contain different grade levels varying from 1st/2nd grade, 3rd/4th grade, 5th/6th grade, and junior high divisions. What used to be 30 teams has now grown to 80 teams! We have seen a great retention rate with our teams as the word continuously spreads about the great competition at our facility, bringing back teams year after year.

Our dedicated staff has bent over backwards to accommodate the special needs of each and every participant. Some that enroll in the leagues are individuals without teams, and staff has waited until the last minute to make sure that everyone that wanted to play had a team. Volunteer coaches had to be recruited for those made up teams. Deadlines were overlooked in order to accommodate everyone.

Rules regarding forfeiting and/or canceling games need to be enforced. Many teams are involved in more than one league or tournament throughout our regular season leading to a few problems. If a team cancelled its scheduled league game in order to play at a tournament, staff members tried to substitute another team so that opponents always had a game to play. The shuffling of teams advanced the perception of disorganization.

The number of activities at the YPCC has probably outgrown the facility and the available staff. Those desiring to reschedule games and other events can find it nearly impossible to find any open space on the calendar.

Ebensburg is very fortunate to have such a variety of programs and activities available for all age groups. It has grown to the point that staff will need to strictly enforce the established rules governing participation. We ask all participants to comply with the regulations and deadlines for league play, and help us make the programs run as smoothly as possible.



The YPCC now has a health and wellness facility complete with aerobics classes. The health and wellness facility has grown rapidly solidifying a core group of members who continuously spread the word about our "best kept secret in Ebensburg". Our gym members range from high school students to senior citizens who use the facility on a regular basis.

Borough Council has approved approximately \$55,000 worth of street resurfacing this year. Streets to be resurfaced include Randolph Street between Spruce and Beech, Beech Street between Randolph and Highland, Maple Springs Court, and Ann Street west of Julian Street.

Borough crews will also be excavating smaller sections of other streets and applying permanent patches.

COMMUNITY YARD SALE!



Held during the Ebensburg Homecoming!

Saturday, July 31st
8am - ?

\$5 Yard Sale Registration Fee
Limited to First 50 Registrants!

Anyone with an Ebensburg address may register!

To be placed on the map, please send your name, address, phone number, yard sale time, and \$5 fee to:

Ebensburg Homecoming
300 West High Street
Ebensburg, PA 15931

(All checks should be made payable to EABC)

Only addresses and yard sale times will be published on the map. The maps will be available for visitors to pick up at the Borough office, at several downtown businesses, and online at www.ebensburgmainstreet.com beginning on July 27th!

Questions? Call the Ebensburg Borough Office at (814) 472-8780



WE HAVE HAD AN UNUSUALLY HIGH NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS THIS YEAR ABOUT SPEED AND STOP SIGN VIOLATIONS ON NEIGHBORHOOD STREETS. WE ARE NOT TALKING JUST ABOUT HIGH AND CENTER STREETS, BUT ESPECIALLY THE SIDE STREETS. CHIEF WYLAND ENCOURAGES EVERYONE TO RENEW THEIR EFFORTS TO BE SAFE ON BOROUGH STREETS. COME TO COMPLETE STOPS AT INTERSECTIONS. BE PREPARED AT ANYTIME FOR A SMALL CHILD TO DART OUT IN FRONT OF YOUR VEHICLE.

UTILITY RATES

Ebensburg water and sewer customers will soon see a significant decrease 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 is expected to 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 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.





Ebensburg Tennis Center
257 Lakeview Rd.
Ebensburg, PA 15931
(814) 471-2980
www.EbensburgTennisCenter.com

Director of Tennis
Jamie Taylor
jtaylor@ebensburgpa.com

Adult Programs
The cost is \$10 for members and \$11 for non-members.

Adult Clinics
Mondays: 11AM—12PM
Wednesdays: 5PM—6PM
Thursdays: 9:30AM—10:30AM

Adult Beginner Tennis Clinic
Tuesdays: 5:30PM—6:30PM
*This clinic will teach the basics of tennis such as the forehand, backhand and serve.



Summer All You Can Play Pass:		
<u>UNLIMITED PLAY</u>	<u>SINGLE</u>	<u>FAMILY</u>
Outdoor Courts	\$150	\$200
Indoor Courts	\$200	\$250
Indoor/Outdoor	\$250	\$300

**Must be a Tennis Center member to have an A.Y.C.P. pass*

SUMMER SPECIAL!

Tell friends and family about the great summer tennis memberships available now!

Summer memberships run through September 18th!

Single Membership: \$50
Family Membership: \$80
Junior Membership (18 and under): \$30

*Members who refer a new member will receive a 10% discount on their membership renewal!

Junior Programs: Pee Wee Program

Mondays: 10AM—11AM
*Ages 5-8

*Recommended playing level is for beginners

Next Level Clinic

Wednesdays/Fridays: 10AM—11AM
*Ages 8-12

*Recommended playing level is for beginners to Intermediate.

Future Champions

Tuesdays/Thursdays: 10:30AM—12PM
*Ages 8-12

*Recommended playing level is intermediate to advanced.

SEWAGE TESTING

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.



(814) 472-4277
www.ypccrec.com

Swimming Lessons Camp

Register at the Ebensburg Pool or YPCC!



- Parent Tot: 3 months - 3 years
 - Preschool: 3 - 5 years
 - Child: 6 - older
- Child classes are organized by "waves," or skill levels

July 18th—July 31st

*Classes are held Tuesdays & Thursdays
Member-\$25.00 Non-Member-\$35.00

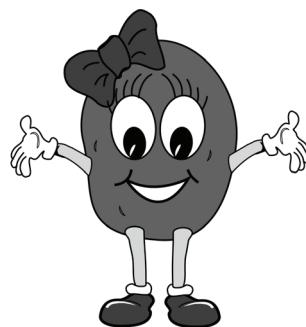


Citations

Ebensburg Borough has always had a number of Ordinances that regulate relatively minor

matters. Even though the violation may have been for a minor matter, the penalty was the same for violation of any other ordinance, or \$600. Enforcement of the ordinances also required a civil process to enforce, and those costs added even more to the violator. Borough Council wanted to simplify the enforcement process and reduce the fines to a reasonable amount.

Ebensburg now uses a "local law citation" for enforcement of these ordinances. The citation is used for high grass, failure to cleanup after pets, outdoor burning, animals in parks, storage of nuisance vehicles and junk, failure to shovel sidewalks, obstructing a sidewalk, and throwing snow or grass into the street. The underlying ordinances remain in force; the citation simply allows for immediate enforcement with a reasonable \$35 fine.



EBENSBURG POTATOFEST

**Saturday, Sept. 25th
9am-5pm
www.potatofest.com**



Ebensburg Borough Swimming Pool

M-F-12:30 PM - 7:00 PM

S&S-1:00 PM - 7:00 PM



Adult/Student (4 yrs. & Older)	\$4.00
Child (3 yrs. & Younger)	\$2.00
Season Pass	
Family	\$125.00
Adult	\$ 90.00
Student/Senior	\$75.00

2010 Ebensburg Main Street Partnership Members

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
 AmeriServ Financial
 ANPAC / United Farm Family
 Appledale Public Golf Course, Inc.
 Askew-Houser Funeral Homes, Inc.
 AVON / Elizabeth Hemming
 A-Z Travel Agency
 B P Insurance, Inc.
 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
 Codex Comics and Collectibles
 Comfort Inn
 Computer Shop
 Copy Tech Office Systems, Inc.
 Corporate Care Services
 Country Garden 6-Pack
 Cresson Lake Playhouse
 Crossroads Meadow
 Curves - Ebensburg
 Custom Plus Windows & Home Improvements
 D.I.G. Contracting
 Damin Printing Company
 Decker Diamond Jewelers
 Dr. Gregory M. Zawrotny, DMD
 Dr. Joseph M. Cavalier, Orthodontist
 Dr. Robert Maruca
 Ebensburg Ace Hardware
 Ebensburg Agway
 Ebensburg Animal Hospital
 Ebensburg Bedding Shoppe
 Ebensburg Cambria Public Library
 Ebensburg Collision Center
 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
 Festival Beverage
 First Commonwealth Bank
 First General Services
 First National Bank
 First United Church of Christ
 Frost Bites Ice Cream & Treats
 Garfield Thomas Jr. VFW Post 4963
 Gittings Security & Private Investigations, Inc.
 Gold Rush Diamonds & Boutique
 Greater Johnstown/Cambria Co. Chamber of Commerce, Inc.
 Griffith & Gress Oral Surgery, P.C.
 H & R Block
 Hair Expressions By Tracy
 HealthSouth Rehabilitation Center
 High Street Emporium
 Holiday Inn Downtown Johnstown
 Home Appliance Service and Top Hat Cleaners
 Hoover's Garage, LLC
 Infocon Corporation
 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
 Laurel Medical Supplies
 Leonard Insurance Agency
 M & M Used Furniture n'MORE
 MacLaughlin Pest Control
 Mainline National Bank
 Mainline Newspapers
 Martin Oil Company
 Mary Kay Cosmetics/Jacqueline Mazeika, Consultant
 Mastrine's Auto Repair Service
 Matevish & Matevish Funeral Home
 McAneny Brothers, Inc.
 McCall Motors
 Mia's Pepperoni's Pizza
 Mid's Candy & Gifts
 Miss Pinkerton's
 Northwest Savings Bank
 Nulton Properties
 Off the RAK
 O'hara's Sign & Paint Supply
 Organization of Professional Referrals
 Otto-Mart Sales & Service
 Oyaski Rentals
 PA CareerLink Cambria County / Goodwill Industries
 Pandya Computers, 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
 Prison Outreach Ministry
 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
 Specialty Promotions, Inc.
 State Farm Insurance / Kim Springer
 State Representative Frank Burns
 Subway
 The Burns Law Firm
 The Castle Pub
 The Dawning
 The Long Barn, Inc.
 The Meadows Original Frozen Custard
 The Noon-Collins Inn
 The Pampered Chef / Cindy Rumbaugh, Team Leader
 Thompson's Clothing
 Three Wire Systems, LLC
 Tibbott's Pharmacy / Ebensburg Cleaners
 Traders Guide
 Vale Wood Farms
 Valley Orthopedics, Inc.
 Veronica's Nail Salon
 VOSCHCO Insurance Negotiation Services
 Wal-Mart
 Wessel & Company
 William Inn & Restaurant
 Winterset Kennels
 Wise Trailer Sales
 Wonder Hostess Outlet
 Woodland Park, Inc.
 WorkLink Staffing



Ebensburg Main Street Partnership

www.ebensburgmainstreet.com

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

FREE CONCERTS IN THE PARK!



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

8/6 Rosie & The Jammers

Sponsored by **PBS**
PRECISION BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

8/13 Ole '97 Johnny Cash Band

Sponsored by **Gamesa**

8/20 Johnstown Classic Rockers

Sponsored by **WESSEL & COMPANY**
Certified Public Accountants & Business Consultants

8/27 Full Kill

Sponsored by **Allegheny Chesapeake
Physical Therapy**

**WOULD YOU
LIKE TO
VOLUNTEER?**

Call the Borough Office at 472-8780
or cstrugala@ebensburgpa.com



DECEMBER 3 - 5

If your organization would like to participate in this year's Dickens of a Christmas event, you must have your information for the program submitted no later than September 3rd. We encourage all groups to get involved! Call the borough office at 472-8780.
[www.ebensburgdickens.com!](http://www.ebensburgdickens.com)