Central Cambria Coalition Celebrates 5th Anniversary

The Central Cambria Coalition celebrated its five-year anniversary during 2011. The Coalition was formed by Ebensburg Borough, Cambria Township and Jackson Township. Elected officials and staff from all three municipalities meet monthly to discuss issues of mutual concern, share ideas, and tackle problems together. The effort has proven to be very successful.

A $25,000 grant was received for the joint purchase of a new street sweeper. Grants of $25,000 were used to jointly purchase a paving machine; $22,000 to purchase crack sealing equipment; and $18,700 for an asphalt hauling trailer. The municipalities are also sharing equipment purchased individually before and after the formation of the Coalition. For example, Cambria Township has loaned its paving roller to the Borough while the Borough’s bucket truck is available to both townships.

A $45,000 planning grant was used to develop a joint Comprehensive Plan covering all three municipalities. An additional $32,500 grant was received to update zoning and other land development ordinances. This joint planning process assured consistency and coordination of zoning and building issues along municipal borders, while still allowing each municipality to maintain its individual identity.

Topics addressed during the monthly meetings have included park maintenance, oil and gas drilling, water line improvement projects, wireless communications, emergency services, traffic signal improvements and economic development initiatives.

Joint studies have been performed considering shared police services and provision of sanitary sewer service along Route #22 west of town. After considering formation of a regional building code enforcement agency, the three municipalities agreed to engage the same agency, Middle Department Inspection Agency so that enforcement of property codes would be the same in the entire region.

The Central Cambria Coalition has resulted in a sense of cooperation among the local elected officials and staff, and will continue to benefit the region.

Entrance Sign

Thanks to the Ebensburg Rotary Club, a new “Welcome to Ebensburg” sign is being erected at the east entrance to town near Lake Rowena.

The design of the sign is intended to reflect the “second empire” architectural style of the Cambria County Courthouse. Its construction even includes the limestone quoins to match the courthouse. The sign, 12 feet wide and 8 feet high, is being constructed by Major Builders of Johnstown.

Matching signs are planned for five other entrances to Ebensburg.

If your community organization is interested in contributing to one of the new signs, contact the borough office for additional details.
A refurbishing of the county-owned Veterans Park next to the former jail is underway. The park, originally built in 1913, was in desperate need of improvements.

Memorial plaques around the monument were badly tarnished and nearly illegible. The plaques honor those that served in very early wars such as the Revolutionary War, Civil War and War of 1812. The Civil War “armed sentinel”, the statute guarding the obelisk, was a tarnished green. MEC, a Nanty Glo based company, was hired to remove the 25 memorial plaques and the statute and completely refurbish them.

The centerpiece of the new park is the flag park honoring those who have served in each branch of the military. Five new service flagpoles will be erected to form a semi-circle around a new U. S. flag. Borough Council President Deb Nesbella said, “We wanted the new park to honor all who have served in any branch of the military, whether during peacetime or war, at home or abroad.”

In other words, in August the first recycling days are Wednesday, August 3rd and Friday, August 5th. In September, the first recycling days are Wednesday, September 7th and Friday, September 9th. There is no recycling on Friday, September 2nd because that is not the first week of the month to contain BOTH days.

If you have any questions about garbage collection or recycling, or you have a problem to report, call Hugill Sanitation direct at 814-277-6050.
As part of the refurbishing of Veterans Park, ten new benches will be purchased. The benches are six feet wide with cast iron side supports. The wooden Pau Lope slats are resistant to rotting and splintering. These are very nice benches that will complement the new park and be frequently used.

The Borough is seeking donors for the ten benches. A 12” x 3” bronze plaque will be attached to the bench identifying the donor or who the bench was dedicated to or purchased in memory of. Consider acquiring a bench displaying your business’ name, dedicating a bench to a lifelong borough resident, or honoring one who served in the military.

The cost of each bench, including the bronze plaque, is $1,000. The donation is tax-deductible. There are only ten benches to be purchased, so they will be offered on a first come basis. Cambria Care Center has already purchased two of the benches. If you wish to purchase one of the new benches for Veterans Park, contact the borough office at 472-8780.

This year’s sidewalk improvement project is along East High Street and Rowena Drive between the downtown area and Tanner Street. Because the route is a State road, and because Federal funding is involved in the project, the design and bidding phase of the project became very complicated. PennDOT has finally approved the construction plans, and bids for the project were opened on June 22nd. This project may already be started before you receive this newsletter. In addition to new sidewalks and curb, new Victorian streetlights and signage and stormwater improvements will be added.

Mayor Randy Datsko attended a recent open house at the Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association during EMS Week. He was so impressed with the technicians and paramedics that he spoke with and the sophisticated life-saving equipment that they have on-hand that he wanted to formally recognize the staff and their efforts.

At the June 2011 meeting of Borough Council, Mayor Datsko presented the ambulance association with a Proclamation recognizing the outstanding job that they all do for us, 24 hours per day each and every day of the year.

Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association has been caring for the emergency medical needs of Ebensburg since 1968.

WHEREAS, the Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association has been providing emergency medical care to the Ebensburg Community for more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, since its inception, the tradition of dedication and community service has been carried forward with the commitment to meet changing technology to provide the highest quality of medical care available; and

WHEREAS, every day of the year, at all hours of the day and night, we rely on our emergency medical service paramedics and technicians to provide critical care in our homes, at our workplaces, on our roads, and wherever needs exist; and

WHEREAS, the paramedics and technicians spend long hours furthering their medical education, training on the latest life-saving techniques, and maintaining vital emergency equipment; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Ebensburg Borough take comfort in knowing that well-trained, caring men and women are only a phone call away from treating injuries sustained or medical emergencies; occasions when each of us are in our greatest time of need.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Randy Datsko, Mayor of the Borough of Ebensburg, do command and congratulate the Board of Directors and the staff of the Ebensburg Area Ambulance Association for their outstanding dedication and commitment to their friends and neighbors; and

FURTHER, I urge the residents of Ebensburg Borough to support the Association’s lifesaving efforts by purchasing annual memberships with the Association, thereby helping to assure that the Association will be able to continue to respond to future emergencies and provide emergency medical care whenever and wherever it is needed.
If you haven’t visited www.ebensburgpa.com for awhile, you really should check out enhancements made in the past year. The front page of the website now contains a section listing current topics of interest. Those may be contracts out for bid, new ordinances being advertised, or events happening in the area.

A new section was added for water and wastewater matters. You can find in there any information on a range of information from hunting and fishing regulations on borough property to ways to conserve water.

Use the website for a handy source of information for borough events; information about the YPCC, swimming pool or tennis center; and anything you want to know about borough government such as Council’s meeting agenda or ordinance information.

Ebensburg Borough’s website is updated daily. When you get a chance, check us out and let us know what you think.

The swimming pool improvement project is well underway. The contractor began his work at the beginning of June and is expected to finish by the end of September. The $1.1 million project represents a total refurbishing of the 70-year old facility.

The project involves work that was required to bring the pool into compliance with current Codes. Drains need to be replaced, filtrations systems need to be modernized, handicap access must be provided, and leaks needed to be stopped.

The pool will see many new enhancements too. Water slides and play structures will be installed. The new pool will be heated. The concrete deck will be replaced, and the interior of the pool will be tiled instead of painted. Borough crews are currently remodeling the entire interior of the bathhouse.

Fundraising for this important project is continuing. If you haven’t yet contributed to this very worthwhile
The summer tennis season is just beginning 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. Ask about our junior tennis program or take part in an adult clinic. In need of someone to play, join a “flex league”. Leagues are available for juniors or adults of all ability levels. 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.

- Single - $150
- Family - $195
- Junior - $60 (17 & under)
- Out of Town Membership - $65 (single)
- Out of Town Membership - $115 (family)

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

Visit www.ebensburgtenniscenter.com or call (814) 471-2980 for more information or to sign up for a program.
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

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Midnight Special
The Classic Rock Experience

Friday, September 23
8:00PM
Memorial Field, Ebensburg

$7 in advance, or $10 at the gate

To purchase concert tickets or for more information, www.potatofest.com

Friday, September 2nd

Where: Ebensburg Country Club
Format: Scramble
Cost: $90/player (4 player team sign-ups encouraged)
Register ONLINE: www.shotsandstogies.com
Or Call: Borough Office - 472-8780

Schedule:
11:00am - Registration, Lunch, Free Driving Range
12:00pm - Free Golf Clinic by PGA Professional Jeff Homady
12:30pm - Shotgun Start
6:00pm - Awards & Prizes at Concerts in the Park (Penn Eben Park)

$100 hole sponsorships still available ★ Call Borough Office 472-8780
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 30th! We encourage all groups to get involved! Call the borough office at 472-8780, www.ebensburgdickens.com!

DECEMBER 2nd - 4th

CONCERTS IN THE PARK
Every Friday in August & 1st Friday in September
6PM - 9PM
Penn Eben Park

AUGUST 5, 2011
Jamie Harris’ “Shadows of the King”

AUGUST 12, 2011
Beatle Maniacs

AUGUST 19, 2011
Johnstown Classic Rockers

AUGUST 26, 2011
Full Kilt

SEPTEMBER 2, 2011
JD Eicher & the Goodnights

Brought to you by the Ebensburg Area Business Commission & Ebensburg Main Street Partnership

WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

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