



# Parkesburg News

## BOROUGH OF PARKESBURG

### Welcome Our Borough Manager



On Tuesday, May 9th, James Thomas began his duties as Parkesburg's Borough Manager. Jim has been a long time resident of the Borough who served as police chief from 1979 until 1992. Jim also served on Borough Council from 2003 until his resignation at it's regular meeting on May 8, 2006.

Jim looks forward, with enthusiasm, to devoting himself to the Borough, continuing the revitalization plan and attracting a good mix of businesses. As we move into the new municipal complex later this year, Jim reflected on his role. "The new municipal complex is a large step in the right direction for the continuing revitalization of this Borough. I look forward to completing the goals of Borough Council for many years to come."

Some of the projects include utilizing the grants received and working with Councilman Joe Reali on the continued improvements to Minch Park, assisting Councilman Tom Curtin with the infrastructure grant and the revitalization of the Train Station. "We will continue to look for grants from the County and Commonwealth to assist us with our revitalization goals", added Jim. Jim is looking forward to meeting with current residents and welcoming new ones in the future. Jim also commented, "Being a resident, I am always eager and available to meet with residents to talk about current issues and any concerns they may have."

### Parkesburg's New Zoning Ordinance

A new Zoning Ordinance has been adopted by Borough Council. This was a 2 year devotion of time and effort by many people including the Borough Manager, Zoning Officer, our planning agency Grafton & Associates, members of Borough Council, members of the Parkesburg Planning Commission and the County Planning Commission. Members of the public also were encouraged to participate in this Zoning Task Force; each meeting was open to anyone interested.

The entire previous ordinance written was revised, some sections totally rewritten and some sections created anew. We went from about 75 pages, written in 1977 to protect a small, quiet historic town to a document twice that size to provide for today's and tomorrow's challenges. An ordinance was created to allow for new and expanded commercial districts; we provided for our central business district in order to permit growth and revitalization and we made changes and created complete new zoning districts to protect quiet neighborhoods and preserve our small town heritage.

Some of the major changes include; adapting our development procedures and design processes so residents, business owners, builders and land developers have very clear guidelines through which they may focus their efforts in areas to enhance the Borough rather than exploit it. We expanded our sign ordinance and non-conforming use regulations. Guidelines were adapted to limit noise and air pollution. Standards were introduced to provide for steep slope issues as well as were buffer zones between conflicting use areas.

Some of the most substantive changes involve increasing the classifications of zoning districts, protecting our stream and wetlands, protecting neighborhoods from blight, preserving desirable plants and trees as well as preserving the historical essence of our town.

This Zoning Ordinance should go far to guide the future of Parkesburg in a very encouraging way. It should promote Parkesburg's long overdue revitalization. As an example, areas that may have been just residential may now have commercial designations. The Zoning Task Force developed an ordinance that should encourage investment and business growth while at the same time, maintain the reason why more and more people are moving here: our great quality of life.



### Borough-Wide Bulk Trash Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup>

*Please have items at curbside by 6 am*

#### Unacceptable Materials

- Tires
- Yard Waste
- Batteries
- Construction Debris
- Hazardous Waste
- Recyclables
- Oil Based Paints
- Car Parts

Borough of Parkesburg  
329 W. First Avenue  
Parkesburg, PA 19365

610-857-2616  
Fax: 610-857-1102  
www.parkesburg.org

# Borough Officials

## Mayor

John P. Hagan, II

## Borough Council

Ken Knickerbocker	President
Michael Martorana	Vice President
Joseph Reali	Member
David Jones	Member
Virginia Miller	Member
Sheri Melton	Member
Thomas Curtin	Member

## Appointed Officials

James Thomas	Borough Manager
Wendy A. Keegan	Borough Secretary
David Fiorenza	Treasurer
John S. Carnes, Jr.	Solicitor
Thomas H. Lowry	Zoning Officer
Jeffrey M. Hunt	Engineer
Brian C. Sheller	Police Chief
Richard Klingler, II	Fire Chief
Alan Manning	Emergency. Mgt. Dir.
Ann Smoker	Police Secretary
Harry Guest	Streets Supervisor

## Tax Collector

Berkheimer Outsourcing

## Streets Department

Harry Guest	Lewis Taylor
David Clements	Paul Overbeck
Wayne Belton	

## Planning Commission

Jason Smucker	Chairman
Jeannette Schneider	Vice-Chair
Michael Martorana	Member
Raymond Stackhouse	Member
Dennis Schwandt	Member

## Zoning Hearing Board

Janet Crosson	Chairman
George Evans	Member
E. Craig Kalemjian	Solicitor

## Meeting Schedule & Location

Work Session: 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 7:00  
Council: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, 7:00  
Planning Commission: Last Thursday, 7:00  
Borough Hall, 329 West First Avenue

# Community Calendar

## July

- 3 Work Session Cancelled
- 3-8 Fire Company Fair
- 4 Holiday
- 8 Fireworks—Minch Park
- 10 Council Meeting — 7:00 pm
- 12 Fire Company Banquet
- 17 Fire Co. Auxiliary—7 pm
- 17 Fire Company—7 pm
- 21 Movies in the Park
- 27 Planning Commission
- 29 Bulk Trash Pick-Up

## August

- 4 Movies in the Park
- 7 Work Session—7 pm
- 9 Fire Company —7 pm
- 14 Council Meeting—7:00 pm
- 21 Fire Company Auxiliary—7 pm
- 28 Fire Company — 7 pm
- 31 Planning Commission—7 pm

## September

- 5 Work Session — 7 pm
- 9 Motorcycle & Car Show
- 10 Council Meeting — 7:30 pm
- 13 Fire Company—7 pm
- 18 Fire Co. Auxiliary—7 pm
- 25 Fire Company —7 pm
- 28 Planning Commission
- 30 Community Yard Sale 8—3

## Property Maintenance

Every citizen has the responsibility to keep residential neighborhoods clean and attractive. The following highlights some of the major provisions of the Borough's Property Maintenance Ordinance. Please use this list to help you recognize potential violations on your property and take corrective action to preserve property values and the character of your neighborhood.



### Exterior Maintenance

Exterior walls, roofs, windows, doors, decks and porches must be maintained in good condition and be structurally sound; for example, no flaking, peeling paint or holes in walls. Fences and walls must also be maintained in good condition.

### Grass & Weeds

All exterior property and premises shall be maintained free from weeds or plant growth in excess of 6 inches. Please, also keep shrubs and trees trimmed back at corners to prevent traffic hazards and away from sidewalks for pedestrian safety.

### Rubbish & Garbage

All exterior property and premises, and the interior of every structure, shall be free from any accumulation of rubbish or garbage. Garbage shall be disposed of in a safe and sanitary manner by placing such rubbish in approved containers.

### Outdoor Storage

Items like building materials, car parts, tires, household items, tools, appliances, dismantled machinery, scattered trash, cardboard or domestic waste may not be openly stored in yards.

### Motor Vehicles

Except as provided in other regulations, no inoperative or unlicensed motor vehicle shall be parked, kept or stored on any premises, and no vehicle shall at any time be in a state of major disassembly, disrepair or in the process of being stripped or dismantled. Painting of vehicles is prohibited unless conducted in an approved spray booth.

*Please contact the Borough Office with any questions regarding property maintenance.*



## Fireworks Safety

The Fourth of July can be a time filled with great memories. However, before your family celebrates, make sure everyone knows about fireworks safety.

The Chester County Health Department (CCHD) encourages residents to enjoy the fireworks display at Minch Park on July 8th, 2006, or other professionally run fireworks programs approved and permitted by the municipalities. For additional information, visit the county website at [www.chesco.org/ccparks](http://www.chesco.org/ccparks).

If you are intending to use fireworks at home, the CCHD recommends following the safety tips from the US Consumer Product Safety Commission:

- Read and follow all warnings and instructions
- Observe local fireworks laws
- Have a responsible adult present
- Be sure other people and pets are out of range before lighting fireworks
- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of malfunction, fire, or emergency
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface that is away from the house and any flammable materials
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned
- Don't experiment with homemade fireworks
- Buy fireworks from reliable sellers
- Use fireworks outdoors only
- Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trashcan
- Stay away from illegal explosives. If you are not sure what is permitted in your municipality, be sure to check with your local officials or fire department.

As a safety measure, Pat Donnelly, Health Educator with the Chester County Health Department, reminds county residents that Pennsylvania has specifically permitted consumer fireworks. Sparklers, toy pistols, or other devices in which paper caps are used which contain .25 grains or less of explosive compound, and are constructed so the hand cannot come into contact with the cap when in place for the explosion. Also permitted are toy cannons which operate on the principle of mixing calcium carbide, weighing less than 1/10<sup>th</sup> ounce and water in the reservoir of the cannon, and in which ignition results upon the creation of a spark. P.L. 134, No. 65 (Revised May 1984).

# PARKESBURG NEWS

329 West First Avenue  
Parkesburg, PA 19365  
610-857-2616

Presorted  
First Class Mail  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Parkesburg, PA  
Permit No. 50



## Motorcycle & Custom Car Show



In Association with the Chester County Chapter of  
A.B.A.T.E. of PA

MUSIC



FOOD

Saturday, September 9th — 11 am to 6 pm

(rain date 9/23)

Minch Park

*Parade from Main Street Shopping Center  
to Minch Park at Beale Drive*

Vendors Needed—call 610-857-0359

For additional information

Call: 610-269-9270 or

Email: [sccabate@aol.com](mailto:sccabate@aol.com)

# Sale!

Join in the  
**Community Yard Sale**  
Saturday, September 30th

Advertised in the Daily Local News & Parkesburg Post

Maps Available

*Call Wendy at the Borough Office to include your address on the map*

## Attention Tennis Players

The lock on the tennis courts has been changed. Please bring your key to the Borough Office to obtain a new key.