



Parkesburg News

BOROUGH OF PARKESBURG

Borough Council News

West First Avenue Revitalization

We have been approved and granted funds for a sidewalk revitalization program on West First Avenue between Culvert Street and Gay Street. The project will break ground sometime between the middle of September and the middle of October. There will most likely be a break in the work during January and February 2010. The project should be completed in the early spring 2010. All of the sidewalks on both sides of West First Avenue will be torn up and replaced. New street lights will be installed along with benches, trash receptacles and planters. The street lights will dramatically change the night time lighting in this section of town.

The Borough Council will be holding an information meeting for all of the residents and property owners on both sides of West First Avenue who will be affected by this project. If you live on West First Avenue or own property on West First Avenue between Gay Street to the East and Culvert Street to the West, we urge you to attend this important meeting. A full explanation of the project and how it will impact your property will be given at the meeting.

State Street Bridge Abutment Removal

We have been granted full funding for the final phase of the State Street Bridge removal project. This is a major project that will totally change streets behind the fire house and between Main Street and Front Street on the North side of town. State Street will now drop down from Main Street to Front Street in the same manner as Gay Street, next to Rocco and Anna's restaurant. On the South side the ramp to the old bridge will be totally removed. This project is totally funded by the federal government's stimulus project.

Help Wanted

The Borough is looking for someone to serve as our Emergency Management Coordinator. This is an important position and is mostly voluntary, although like members of council and the Mayor, there is \$1,000 per year to cover costs that comes with the position. Anyone interested can find out more information by checking with the Borough Manager at the GSC building.

Ground Hogs

At a recent council meeting some residents made us aware of a mounting problem they have experienced with ground hogs on their property. Council urges all residents to not wait when you see this type of problem developing. The safest way to address this issue is with traps that are available at local stores like Home Depot. Dealing with this problem is the responsibility of each property owner and it has been our experience that dealing with it as soon as possible is the best approach.

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Mayor Hagan's Fedora Award Presented to George "Peanut" Mullen



Mayor Hagan, George Mullen, David Jones

What I know most vividly is a typewritten letter arrives at my home in April every year. It extends to me an invitation to participate in the Parkesburg Memorial Day observance and parade. It is signed by George W. Mullen.

On the 3rd or 4th Sunday in May I am standing on Main Street awaiting instructions from Commander Mullen. I, along with many of the council and usually our local state representative, stand at attention awaiting orders to "step off" from Commander Mullen shortly after 1:00 pm every year.

Its hard to express the feeling I, a non veteran, experience. This low key but intensively serious observation is successfully managed every year by George. His support of this act of veneration and memorial demands respect. I am humbled yet awash with pride and gratitude as I observe the memorials bestowed with precision and respect at each of our town's monuments.

His actions and attitude command we must never forget the sobering reality as it speaks of all our veterans that "All gave some, some gave all". Thanks to George Mullen and his efforts all of our veterans will be remembered with gratitude and humility always.

George has quietly and, to the grateful among us, diligently brought honor to his town, his comrades, his fellow citizens, his friends, his family and desired or not, himself.

And so, this Mayor and this council wish it known both now and for time to come of the gratitude owed one of its own, George W. Mullen.

Holiday Trash Collection Schedule

Labor Day

Monday, 9/7 — Office Closed
No yard waste pick-up this week

Thanksgiving

Thursday, 11/26 — Office Closed
South Side pick-up on Wednesday 11/25
North Side pick-up Friday 11/27

Christmas

Thursday 12/24 & Friday 12/25 — Office Closed
Recycling will be picked up on Monday 12/21
South Side pick-up Tuesday 12/22
North Side pick-up Wednesday 12/23

Community Calendar

August

- 3 Council Meeting — 7 pm
- 10 Park & Rec Committee — 6 pm
- Streets & Property — 7 pm
- 11 Progress Committee — 7 pm
- 17 Council Meeting — 7 pm
- 27 Police & Fire — 6 pm
- Finance Committee — 7 pm
- Planning Commission — 7 pm

September

- 8 Council Meeting — 7 pm (Tuesday)
- 14 Park & Rec — 6 pm
- Streets & Property — 7 pm
- 15 Progress — 7 pm
- 21 Council Meeting — 7 pm
- 24 Police & Fire — 6pm
- Finance — 7 pm
- Planning Commission — 7pm
- 26 Community Yard Sale 8 - 3 pm
- Community Day — Minch Park 12 to 6 pm

October

- 5 Council Meeting — 7 pm
- 12 Park & Rec — 6 pm
- Streets & Property — 7 pm
- 13 Progress — 7 pm
- 19 Council Meeting — 7 pm
- 22 Police & Fire — 6pm
- Finance — 7 pm
- 29 Planning Commission — 7pm

PABA NEWS

L.C. Auto Body Named 2008 Business Leader of the Year

The 2008 Business leader of the year has been awarded to L.C. Auto Body. Larry Constable, a life long resident of Parkesburg, started the business back in 1982, 27 years ago. He was a one-man operation with a rustoleum spray can, super glue and dry wall compound to fill the dents. About a month after he opened up shop on Fleetwood Street in Coatesville, Larry hired his first employee. In 1985, when the opportunity came up and wanting to get back closer to his roots, he moved the shop back to Parkesburg to where he is today and hired two more technicians.

Everyone knows how stressful a car accident can be, but the friendly office staff and licensed appraisers are there to help in anyway. Everyone from the shop to the office staff strive for excellence not just in the work they do but also in customer service. L.C. Auto body employs 15 people with about 9 of them from Parkesburg and the Parkesburg area.

L.C. Auto Body is a proud supporter of the Parkesburg Fire Company, the Parkesburg Library and PABA, the Parkesburg Point Youth Center and the Church of the Open Bible . They are also supporters the Octorara sports programs and short term mission trips. Larry is on the advisory council for Willow Street Vo-Tech, CAT Brandywine Vo-Tech and Stevens Trade School for the auto body shop classes.

With a thankful heart Larry always jumps at the opportunity to share that the recipe of success for LC Auto body has been the result of a focus on values such as integrity, diligence, hard work and honesty, and much appreciated support from the community, customers and employees.

Congratulations to the 2008 business leader of the year LC Auto body.

PABA welcomes our newest members:

- *Bulldog Construction*
- *Phoenix Services*
- *AKG Printing*
- *Beale Manor*

DID YOU KNOW

. . . if you are 65 or older you are eligible to participate in the Aging Shared Ride program?

In Chester County, Rover is the authorized transportation for the Aging Shared Ride program. For essential rides the program is subsidized by the PA Department of Transportation and the Chester County Department of Aging Services, with a small portion of the fare paid by the rider. Currently, the rider's portion of the fare is 75 cents each way. All of the Para transit buses are accessible. All rides must be scheduled in advance.

Essential rides include:

- ***Visits to the doctor or other medical appointments***
- ***Visits to family members who are residents in nursing facilities***

- ***Visits to the Social Security office***
- ***Visits to the Chester County Department of Aging, located in the Government Services Center***
- ***Attendance at Adult Day Centers***
- ***Attendance at Area Senior Centers***
- ***Visits to the grocery store***

You cannot participate in the Aging Shared Ride Program if you are not registered. Call Rover now to get registered, even if you have other means of transportation available to you. You never know when you may need to go somewhere and your regular transportation is not available.

The toll free number for Rover is 1-877-873-8415





Help Put the *Community* Into The Community Farm Market

Our Farm/Community Market has been running successfully since May with local farmers and steady shoppers. The County's new "BUY LOCAL/BUY FRESH" newsletter included a mention of us, and for those who have stopped by to pick up produce and craft items have enjoyed the results. Tasty BBQ, music and performers add to the fun as well.

The point of the market is to create some place interesting where residents can come, sell if they want, buy if you need and chat with each other. The Market needs more if it's going to make it, it needs YOU to come out and shop, it needs more vendors, more yard and craft sellers. If you have things you'd like to sell, crafts or collectibles, or just want to set up a table to promote your business or services come down Saturday morning from 8:00 to 1:30 and join in the fun. Local organizations and churches are invited to come and do fund raisers. And set-up is free this summer for Parkersburg residents, businesses and local non-profit organizations.

The lament that all we can do is drive to a big box store is sad. We know you want to see local businesses in town. To get those businesses, Residents need to use the existing businesses. The www.paba-pa.org web site is a great place to go to find out about the businesses. Let's help them all grow. See you at the Market.

Catch Up With Council at the Market

Council members often hear people say, "Oh I can't get to the meeting". Every week there is a council person coordinating the market. Most weeks you can find Council members Tom Curtin or Kathy Rick from 8-1:30 or so, but the Mayor and other council members are stopping by and sometimes coordinate. If you'd like to share some concerns or ideas for the Borough, ask a question or talk about all the changes coming to First Avenue this fall, stop by. The Borough table contains information on the new Redevelopment Plan, the First Avenue Streetscape project as well as other local government information. Visit the Market to chew our ear and some tasty food as well!

Saturday, September 26th

Community Day at Minch Park

12 noon to 6 pm

Games ☺ Fun ☺ Food
Car Show ☺ Crafters

Sponsored by PABA

For more info email paba.info@yahoo.com

&

Community-Wide Yard Sale

8 am to 3 pm

Maps Available

Contact the Borough to put
your address on the map

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Ground hogs like other small animals do mate and grow families. The longer you wait to address the problem the more serious the problem may become. Unfortunately, the Borough is not in a position to monitor and remove small animals for private property owners.

Safety Signs

Anyone with information on the person or persons who stole the safety signs from First Avenue should please contact the police. Council is aware that some citizens felt these safety signs were annoying, but removing them is illegal. We have been working hard to make First Avenue safe. A big part of that process is getting cars to slow down as they come to critical intersections. There are many children that play on sidewalks along First Avenue and there have been numerous small accidents along this stretch due to the tight quarters and the excessive speed of some motorists. Although it can be annoying to have to slow down and navigate around these signs in the long run this presents a safer thoroughfare for everyone.

Water Bills

If you haven't heard already, you can expect your water bills to decrease in the coming months. The debt payment (approximately \$11) on everyone's bills will be going away sometime between October and

the end of December. When this debt was incurred years ago it was scheduled to run until 2016. Because of credits we receive for systems set up that flow through the Borough like those in Sadsbury Commons, this debt will be paid in full 7 years earlier than anticipated.

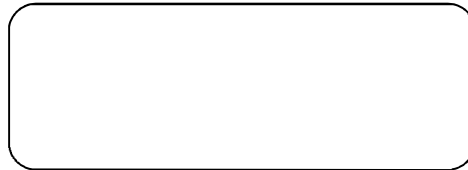
Budget Update

Because of the lack of a local newspaper many residents may not be aware of the severe budget situation we have in Parkersburg. The Daily Locals News gave some coverage to this story recently, but it is important for all residents to know that Parkersburg is experiencing the same revenue shortages as almost all other levels of government. This means we have had to tighten our Borough belt significantly and we are not done yet. Our projected shortage is approximately \$91,000 at this time. It is very likely that much more drastic and significant spending will have to be cut in the last couple months of 2009. The best way to stay informed about this issue and many others is to attend Borough Council Meetings the first and third Monday of each month. Important decisions get made regularly that impact on everyone and once the decision is made and the changes are implemented it is too late to voice your opinion. We urge residents to stay in touch with what is happening in your community. Again, there is no local newspaper coverage to keep the citizens informed so this makes it even more important to find out what is going on and to voice your opinion before the decisions are made.

PARKESBURG NEWS

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Presorted
Standard Mail
U.S. Postage Paid
Parkesburg, PA
Permit No. 10



Police News

The Police would like to remind every motorist to turn their headlights on whenever their windshield wipers are in use. PA State Law (4302) requires the use of headlamps, anytime a motorist's windshield wipers are in continuous or intermittent use due to precipitation or atmospheric moisture, including rain, snow, sleet or mist. Effective November, 2006.

The Parkesburg Police consider this requirement an important safety issue and are enforcing the law on local roadways based on a Parkesburg Police study that shows that a large number of drivers are non-compliant with this State Law. Drivers stopped for operating in violation may receive a fine of \$25.00 plus court costs. This law does not apply to motorcycles.

New Equipment: The Parkesburg Police have been awarded a \$13,000 Grant from the Commonwealth, which was sponsored by Senator Pileggi, that allows for the purchase of two Segway Patrol Units. These electric powered patrol units will be used for park patrols, community policing activities and specialized patrol functions. This program was implemented by the police to aid in overall cost reduction efforts and lesson the carbon footprint and dependency on gasoline. Officers will be utilizing Segway patrols beginning in late August.



"Buyer Beware!!!" Residents are reminded that door-to-door solicitation requires the purchase of a permit. The application process for such solicitation provides an opportunity for the Borough to identify and credential those interested in door-to-door sales. The absence of a permit is a police matter. Do not engage in sales activity with anyone failing to produce the proper Borough permit. They may be engaged in criminal activity and you could become the victim of a crime.

Too often, criminals pose as door-to-door sales associates and use deceptive sales practices to gain entry into your home. Once inside, they distract the homeowner by asking to use the phone or bathroom and then engage in theft once they are left alone.

Another common practice is multiple subjects, posing as salesmen and working as a team . . . draw the homeowner's attention at the front door, as their "associates" gain entry through the rear of the home. While the sales pitch is distracting the homeowner, the other actors are burglarizing the home. Many times the homeowner doesn't realize they have been victimized for several hours after the theft . . . allowing for the thieves to get away.

Police remind all residents to challenge anyone selling door-to-door to produce a Parkesburg Borough Solicitation Permit and their official identification. Should anyone fail to produce their permit upon your request or act in a suspicious fashion, please contact the police immediately.