



Presented by Ambler Borough

# Home Town News

Issue 2001-4



## Locust Street Storm Water Project Awarded

The bids are in and Tru-Line Contractors has been awarded the project to fix the "White Mountains" Storm Water project on their bid of \$64,104. The contract states that once Tru-Line starts the work, they have 45 days to complete. HTN reported last issue that a mis-aligned storm water pipe that passes under the White Mountains is cause for much of the flooding that residents of South Ambler experience. The cost of this project will be paid by the EPA for it was one of their contractors that caused the mis-alignment.

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## Borough to Begin Dialogue on Storm Water Management

Borough Council has directed its manager to draft a letter to Upper Dublin, Lower Gwynedd, Montgomery County Planning Commission and the WWA requesting to begin a dialogue for a Storm Water Management Plan. Within the next several years the County Planning Commission will initiate a plan under the PA Storm Water Management Act 167 for the entire Wissahickon watershed. Because Act 167, in its present form, deals with storm water coming from new development it does not apply to the nearly built out Wissahickon watershed. This is why the County Planning Commission has put it on hold until criteria can be set up that will make a difference to the Wissahickon. Unfortunately, storm water problems will continue to occur in the interim. Talks with fellow stakeholders was recommended by a watershed specialist so



The portion of the Wissahickon Watershed that affects Ambler Borough

that when the County's Storm Water Management Plan begins, action can occur more quickly. The content of the letter can be found on the Borough's Website under "Meeting Minutes"

## Borough Tells County, "We will be Heard"

On behalf of Borough Council and many residents Council President Sal Pasceri sent a letter to County's Department of Housing services stating the belief that all municipalities should be seen as potential locations for assisted housing programs. The letter says that the Borough is ready and willing to shoulder its portion of the burden in hosting such housing. Nonetheless, the Borough does intend to be heard at each opportunity.

The content of the letter can be found on the Borough's website under "Meeting Minutes".

### Did You Know?

The median age (half above and half below) of Ambler's population is 37.3 years old.

**STANDARD MAIL**  
**U. S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**AMBLER, PA**  
**Permit No. 43**

**RESIDENT OF**  
**AMBLER BOROUGH**



## Environmental Corner

by Dan Dohony

### Preventing Childhood Lead Poisoning

The most common environmental disease in US children is lead poisoning. Every year in Pennsylvania, about 5,000 children are diagnosed with lead poisoning. It's a disease that can seriously impair a child's ability to learn, and - in some rare cases - it can be fatal. But lead poisoning is preventable.

Lead poisoning most severely affects young children, under the age of six, whose primary source of exposure is deteriorated lead-based paint and lead dust in their home. Over time, exposure to lead from paint, dust and soil can cause a range of health problems, including permanent damage to the brain, nervous system and kidneys. Lead poisoning also can cause difficulty in learning and physical development. Lead poisoning in children can be hard to detect since there

"... most severely affects young children, under the age of six..."

are usually no symptoms. When symptoms do occur, they are often confused with other illnesses. Your physician or local health de-

partment can test your child for lead poisoning.

In 1978, lead-based paint was banned for use on the interior and exterior of homes. Before then, the use of lead paint was prevalent in homes. If your house was built before 1978, it may contain lead-based paint. Lead paint is usually found on kitchen and bathroom

walls and wood surfaces. Windowsills can be especially dangerous because young children typically mouth them.

Following a few safety precautions can reduce the risk of lead poisoning:

- If your home was built before 1978, have it tested for lead-based paint;
- Keep your child away from any peeling paint that may contain lead;
- Wash your child's hands often;
- Wash hard surfaces like floors and window ledges weekly;
- Clean children's toys and pacifiers frequently;
- Do not dry-scrape, heat or burn paint;
- If you work around lead, remove your work clothes before you come in contact with your children; and Test your child for lead poisoning at one and two years of age, and test children from 36 to 72 months of age who have not been previously screened.

The State health department provides a statewide toll-free Lead Information Line, 1-800-440-LEAD, to respond to inquiries and provide written materials about childhood lead poisoning.

### Pickering to Get New Slide

Parks and Recreation Chairperson, Anita Pieri, unveiled plans for a new slide at Pickering field. The new 'chute' will also contain a 64" rock climber and a snake climber. This will be a much safer replacement.



### West Nile Virus Update

**Video:** Montgomery County Dept of Health has provided the Borough with a 25 minute video on the West Nile Virus. It covers the history of the disease, how it transmitted, symptoms, personal protection, what the county is doing to fight the disease and things residents can do to control mosquitoes. Civic Service organizations interested in showing the video can call the Borough to borrow it. Individuals can view it on cable access channel 16.

**Spraying:** During June to October, Clarke Environmental contracted by the Montgomery County Health Department, will be applying an organic based larvacide in Ambler Borough as a component of the county's West Nile Virus control and prevention program. The application of larvacide has been targeted for catch-basins at this time. Other locations will be considered in the future as data is collected.

Storm sewer grates will be marked to indicate larvacide has been applied to the site. The larvacides being used are Vectolex and Vectobac. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact the Health Department at 610-278-5117. You can find more information about these chemicals from the Borough's web site under Events & Notices.

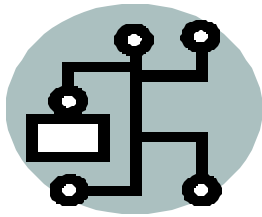


## Ambler Main Street News

P.O. Box, Ambler, PA 19002; 215-641-1070; Fax:215-641-0407; [www.AmblerMainStreet.org](http://www.AmblerMainStreet.org)

### Providing a downtown for Ambler, Upper Dublin, Lower Gwynedd and Whitpain

The first thing to check out is our "new and improved" website. We even got an award!! [www.amblermainstreet.org](http://www.amblermainstreet.org) There is one *really* neat twist on the site. Email me if you discover it!



Meetings Galore

- Tea 21 (bridge improvements)
- New businesses
- Proposed newsletters
- Signs
- Façade improvements
- Movie theater renovations
- Advertising
- Fund raising

### An Editorial Comment

The Ambler Gazette recently printed an article on the revitalization of our downtown. Some of it was positive but some was not. For the record I'd like to say that everyday steps are being taken toward the rebirth of our downtown. Grants are being written, street trees and street furniture are being selected, new entrepreneurs are coming and taking a look, storefronts are being rehabbed, new businesses are opening and flowers are blooming. Ambler is alive with activity! Take a look around. Even in late August there are people on the street. I encourage all parties involved to always put Ambler's best face forward and to work together towards Ambler's promising future.

"Storefronts are being rehabbed"

**Bernadette Dougherty**- Ambler's Main Street Manager

**New!** I also wanted to welcome Ragamuffins a childrens new and consignment shop. They had their grand opening August 20 and are located at 5 S. Ridge. Their phone number is the first new area code number that I've seen 267-468-0515.

### Calendar of Events



Sunday September 16 10<sup>th</sup> annual Oktoberfest on Butler Ave from noon—4pm. The festival will include a beer garden with music, crafts, and kids activities and amusements. Parking is free in all lots. Call 215-641-1070 to rent a space



October 12, 13, 14 The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Art Show at Artman Call 216-793-8701 X 2400 to participate.

### A note to the Ambler Business Community

Ambler Main Street has two volunteers Lura Baughman and Ed Schuler who are visiting the businesses in town to ask three things:

- Do you know the benefits of Main Street membership
- Do you want to participate in cooperative advertising
- Do you want to have Main Street design, produce and host a web page for you

If they don't get around fast enough to you and you would like to take advantage of the great rate for a web page please call 215-641-1070 and leave a message. We stop and see you ASAP! By the way if you already have your own web page and would like to be linked to the Main Street site all you have to do is

Membership in September is supercalifragilistic!! Please join.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Resident \$25 Annual Membership**

**Business membership based on number of employees**

◆ **Send to: Ambler Main Street**

**PO Box 36, Ambler, PA 19002**

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Councilman Louis D. Orehek, Editor & Publisher

We're on the web!

[www.Ambler.Pa.US](http://www.Ambler.Pa.US)

[www.AmblerMainStreet.org](http://www.AmblerMainStreet.org)



Pictured above (l-r) are Ed Schuler, John Ruffin, Councilman Lou Orehek and Mark Howard. Ed and Mark are responsible for the new look of the Ambler Main Street web site. This site does far more than promote local businesses and organizations. Check it out! [Www.AmblerMainStreet.org](http://Www.AmblerMainStreet.org). John works for NetReach. He and Lou developed the Borough's web site. This site describes all of the Borough's assets, day-to-day operations and points of contact. It also serves to inform residents of Borough news and events in a timely manner. [Www.ambler.pa.us](http://Www.ambler.pa.us)

## SEPTA to Demo Ped-X Here

SEPTA has chosen Ambler to demonstrate a prototype pedestrian "Second Train Coming" advanced warning system. It will provide positive guidance to indicate when it is safe to cross railroad tracks.

## Community Cupboard Update



The Community Cupboard has been one of the largest providers of food, clothing, furniture and household items to the less fortunate of eastern Montgomery County for the past 25 years. The Cupboard helps these individuals and families in their time of need. The Cupboard primarily exists on the generosity of individuals, churches, service organizations, government subsidies, small companies and large organizations. Without this generosity many people in our area, both young and old, would go hungry.

The Cupboard's success in serving Ambler is proven in its need to expand. The Cupboard's Board of Directors recently entered into an agreement to purchase the Community Ambulance Association building on North Main Street. Their need, including purchase and renovations, amounts to \$300,000. They are well on their way to meeting their goal but your donation will play a definitive role. In the meantime you can find the Community Cupboard at 57 East Butler Avenue.

For more information on donating food, clothing, furniture or other household items please call 215-628-3002. Please consider sending a tax-deductible contribution to "Community Cupboard" 640 Bellaire Avenue, Ambler, PA 19002. Neighbors helping neighbors. THANK YOU!

## Flood Victims Can Apply for "Buy-out"

Residents who were flood victims of June's Allison Storm Event are encouraged to notify the Borough Manager if they are interested in including their property in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, better known as the Federal "buy-out" Program. There are numerous qualification that must be satisfied before the actual buy-out occurs, including but not limited to the amount of money available to purchase properties. Please call the Borough Manager, James Dillon, at 215-646-1000 x106.

## North Ridge Avenue Open During Repairs

Ridge Avenue between Tennis and Belmont will remain open to traffic when repairs are made to the area washed out by last June's Allison Storm Event. Repairs have been delayed by finding an acceptable contractor but are now scheduled to begin in the fall.

## Borough Wants to Digitize Documents

Ambler has documents and maps written on linen and dating back to Mary Ambler. Borough Council approved a plan to hire a consultant to evaluate our needs and requirements as the first step in purchasing a document imaging system to digitize all the documents. Most systems will allow for document storage on CD-ROM, public viewing via the internet and searching by keywords or phrases.