



Presented by Ambler Borough

Home Town News

Issue 2002-3



Drought Emergency Still Very Real

This writer had a long talk with the Ambler Water Department's supervisor and its water engineer. There is about a half century experience in operating the Ambler Water System between them. They tell me even though Ambler has received 3.07" of rain for the month of April and 4.48" through May 19, the level of water in our wells is at the lowest point in 30 years. The water level is an indicator for the amount of water that ultimately can be pumped. Loch Alsh Reservoir is used to help recharge wells underneath. It is at a historical low. There cannot be enough emphasis placed on the water conservation efforts by customers that must continue to be done. Summer is a time of high water demand. If enough conservation can be done now to help bring the well levels up (and we pray for rain) then we will be in good shape in July and August. The ability to meet customer water demands and still have enough in reserve for fire protection are the two reasons why water restriction notices were sent.



Borough Gets \$882,000 in Grants

Ka-ching! Through the hard work of Ambler Main Street and our Borough Engineer, Ambler has been awarded two grants. The first is a \$552,000 TEA-21 grant to be used for Butler Ave. improvement such as street lights, trees, trashcans and benches. Only three municipalities were awarded this grant. This will begin the completion of the streetscape improvements of Butler Ave that were started in the early 1980s. The other is a DCED grant for \$250,000 with a \$80,000 county match to be used as revolving commercial loans to help commercial developers refurbish buildings within the Borough that have been

identified as "key" in supporting economic development. These loans will be administered by the Borough and Ambler Main Street through Ambler Savings and Loan. The first recipient of this loan will be Ambler Theatre, Inc. As this is repaid, funds will be available for other downtown improvements.

Did You Know?

Mary Ambler's home still stands at the corner of North Main and Tennis?

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Address Display Ordinance to Change

Reported in the last issue of the HTN a 1929 Ordinance requires owners to conspicuously display the address of their properties. These numbers were required to be placed over the main doorway/entranceway. Council has asked the Solicitor to draft a modification to this ordinance to be consistent with the latest Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) requirements. This is a more general requirement whereby house numbers must be observable from the general right-of-way and not required to be over a doorway. Of course, the fine for failure to comply still remains. A prominently displayed number can assist those responding to an emergency at your home.

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**RESIDENTS &
BUSINESSES OF
AMBLER BOROUGH**



Environmental Corner

by Susan Curry

Sigurd Olson, wilderness warrior and environmental activist, argued in his writing that modern society, in distancing itself from the natural world, has left many human needs unfulfilled. In speaking for wild lands, he suggests that the unmet needs of the civilized world could be satisfied through regular and simple interaction with the 'non-civilized' world. Picking berries, looking for pine knots, paddling a canoe. These, and similar activities, Olson says, have "ritualistic significance and give people an opportunity to participate in an act hallowed by the devotion of forgotten generations."

The Ambler Environmental Advisory Council wishes environmental health for HTN readers and for all life that stirs on Earth. We wish, too, that people everywhere may interact with the 'non-civilized' world. Here are some simple actions to add to your own, personal impulses for improving physical, mental and environmental health:

- * Feed the birds
- * Walk to the nearest park
- * Enjoy silence
- * Give away something you don't use
- * Listen to rain on the roof
- * Rake leaves
- * Compost
- * Play in a field
- * Wake for the dawn
- * Ride on a bus
- * Run on a beach
- * Pick up litter
- * Hug a tree, learn its name
- * Shop with a String, canvas or cloth bag
- * Plant seeds, grow some of your food
- * Reduce the size of your lawn
- * Put up a birdhouse
- * Pull some weeds
- * Go for a lake swim
- * Learn a bird call
- * Teach a child to find the big dipper
- * Learn to use a compass
- * Climb a hill
- * Smell the flowers
- * Use hand tools
- * Sit by a rushing stream
- * Search for frogs
- * Eat organically grown foods
- * Join the Wissahickon Valley Watershed Association.

We of the Ambler EAC believe that living close to the Earth enables understanding of ecological communities. Understanding fosters caring, and caring enables the treasures and pleasures of Earth for future generations...for the children of our children.

Act this and every week and thank you for your environmental responsibility.



EAC Seeking to Fill Vacancy

There is currently an opening available with a very important agency within the borough, the Environmental Advisory Council. (EAC).

The EAC identifies actual or potential environmental problems within the borough and recommends to borough council ways to address those problems and preserve open space. Their goal is to increase public awareness of environmental issues. They also organize and perform environmental projects within the borough. Meetings are monthly on the last Tuesday from 7:30-9:15pm.

This is a great way to become involved in the future of our Borough. Anyone interested should send or fax a resume and cover letter to Council President Sal Pasceri at Borough Hall.

Ricciardi Park Improvements Plan Moving Forward



The plans for improvements to Ricciardi Park are continuing to progress. A meeting was held in April to get residents ideas of what they would like to see. The suggestion to remove the deteriorating Par Course exercise stations was accepted by Council as a safety hazard.

Reminder to Dispose of HHW



Household Hazardous Waste collection center will be at the Ft. Washington Expo Center Saturday June 22 in the upper parking lot from 9am-3pm. Please keep all products in their original containers.



Ambler Main Street News

P.O. Box, Ambler, PA 19002; 215-641-1070; Fax:215-628-2280; www.AmblerMainStreet.org

Supporting a downtown for Ambler, Upper Dublin, Lower Gwynedd & Whitpain

"Everything's coming up roses"

-Ethel Merman

Let's Us Know!



Ambler Main Street's Webmaster, Ed Schuler is looking to hear from you. If you have a comment (a good comment please!) about how things are looking in downtown Ambler. He will, if he has your permission, use the quote on our website, send it to him at QuoteMe@amblermainstreet.org



The Latest Buzz From the Main Street Manager

Lately it seems that the team of Ambler Borough and Ambler Main Street has the Midas touch. We applied for a \$552,000 TEA-21 Grant to put new street "stuff" (lampposts, street trees and trash receptacles) up on Butler Avenue between Lindenwold and Bethlehem and it was approved. We applied for a \$250,000 State 'grant- to- loan' project and it was approved. We applied for a \$20,000 façade improvement State grant and it too was approved. Think we should buy a lottery ticket???

Ambler Main Street receives calls daily from possible new entrepreneurs, developers and even people looking for residential properties. The buzz is Ambler!!! All you have to do is stop by The Ambler Coffee Company 14 West Butler (right next to KC'S Alley) and listen to the buzzin'.



Oktoberfest Update

Our calendar looks toward Ambler Main Street's eleventh annual Oktoberfest celebration, slated for Sunday September 15. We are looking for talented artists, crafters, and quilters, anyone who would like to "sell THEIR wares". Please call the Main Street number at 215-641-1070 and leave your name and address, phone number and what it is you would like to sell and we'll send out an application to you. The cost per space is \$30.



Antique Shop Coming to Town

The newest member to the Butler Avenue Family will soon be Kerri and Ryan Farragut, the owners of an Art and Antiques shop to open at 5 East Butler close to the corner of Butler and Main. Look for a grand opening of their store, The Pink Clover, this summer.

It's never too late to join the Ambler Main Street Team...

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Annual Membership; Resident \$25; Landlords \$165

Send to: Ambler Main Street

PO Box 36, Ambler, PA 19002

Business membership based on number of employees

0-5 \$165 16-20 \$330

6-10 \$225 21+ \$550

11-15 \$275

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Councilman Louis D. Orehek, Editor & Publisher



Reminders from the Manager

- Please clean up after your dog. It's a courtesy to your neighbors. It's the law!
- Property owners must keep their grass no higher than six inches.
- Trash may be placed at the curb no sooner than 7:30pm the day before pickup.
- A permit is required for re-roofing, new siding, replacement windows, installation of new or replacement plumbing fixtures, any work on the plumbing system.

SAAC Hosts June Speakers

The Senior Adult Activity Center will be hosting a variety of speakers for seniors in the coming weeks. All presentations are made at 11 am.

June 5—Auto Theft Prevention

June 10—Government Benefits and your Rights, Elderly Law.

June 13—Appraiser to value your Antiques and Heirlooms, \$5.00/item

June 14—Father's and Grandfather's Day luncheon.

June 18—Osteoporosis Q&A

June 19 & 26 — Two part series on time management and staying organized.



Opportunity for Community Service

“Meals on Wheels” is a community based service that enables the homebound or elderly to live on their own by providing them with two meals a day, five days a week. The Ambler SAAC Meals on Wheels serves Horsham, Ft. Washington, Whitpain and Ambler. Volunteer packers and drivers are always needed. This is a wonderful opportunity to fulfill volunteer requirements for scouts or schools. If you can offer even an hour a day, please call Joan McGuigan at 215-619-8863/4.



Montco Rabies Clinic in June

Montgomery County Health Department is offering shots for cats and dogs at a cost of \$8. This vaccination is good for 3 years. Times are Saturdays 10am—2pm. For more information call 610-278-5117.

- June 1 Abington Recycling Center
- June 8 Collegeville Community Center
- June 15 Lower Salford Township Building
- June 22 Burnside Oakland Park
- June 29 Pottstown Roller Mills



ACT II Presents “Over the River”

A hilarious family comedy takes place in New Jersey about Nick who visits his Italian Grandparents every Sunday and they who try to keep him from taking his dream job in Seattle. Call 215-654-0200 for tickets and more information.

Summer Shows at the Ambler Library

Don't miss this fantastic summer line up! 215-646-1072

10:30am Shows

June 26- Cavity Busters

July 3—Magician

July 17- Songs & Drawings

July 24—Bingo Tournament

Aug 14- Live Theatre In Kids

7:00pm Shows

June 25—Origami Mommy

July 2—Magician

July 9— Furry Tale Theatre

July 16—Chaku The Clown

July 23—Bingo Tournament