



Presented by Ambler Borough

# Home Town News

Issue 2002-4



## Pasceri Replaces Hill on Council

Second Ward Representative and Vice President Dick Hill resigned from Council on June 30. George Pasceri was appointed by Council to replace Dick until the end of the 2003 term. Third Ward Representative Anita Pieri, Chair of Parks and Recreation was elected as the new Vice President. George is a former Councilman who brings 12 years experience to the seat. He held posts as Chair of Public Safety and 2 years as President of Council. Other changes made in June, Marita Bondi will hold the Chair for Salary and Personnel. Tom Kenny was appointed to the Revitalization Committee. Mayor Wahl is to Chair the Revitalization committee.

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## Sidewalks Safety Enforced with Road Work

The Borough Council this year initiated a program to bring curbs and sidewalks up to code in conjunction with the Road Surfacing Program. Phase One of the program is presently underway in Haywood Park, where a storm water sewer system is being installed in addition to road resurfacing. Phase Two of this program, which encompasses sections of streets throughout the Borough is expected to get underway towards the end of the summer. Under the program, sidewalks and curbing where marked for replacement. Generally, a section of sidewalk will be marked for repair where aggregate is showing with holes, sidewalk crumbling, cracks extending through the block and depressed sections which cause a tripping hazard. Curbing is to be replaced when sections are missing, where the curb is an inch out of alignment, aggregate is showing beyond 25 percent of surface area, or where the curb is cracked through and/or out of alignment. Residents where given 60 days notice to have the work completed by a contractor of their choice, or utilize the

Borough's contractor. To date, the majority of residents have chosen to have the work completed by the Boroughs contractor. If you have any questions, contact the code enforcement officer, Chuck Baily, at 646-1000 x112.

### Did You Know?

In 1856 Butler Pike was a toll road and 1 of 3 toll booths was at Main Street until the Borough was incorporated in 1888?

## Water Restrictions Still in Effect

Ambler Borough Water Department is easing water restrictions. The following uses are permitted: Washing cars and watering of lawns & gardens using a hose with automatic shutoff nozzle, filling of pools using a garden hose, washing of outdoor surfaces for sanitary reasons. No lawn sprinkling devices are permitted. Residents are asked to conserve water in every way they can. This can include repairing leaking faucets and toilets, run only full washers and dishwashers and install water saving shower heads.



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Permit No. 43**

**RESIDENTS &  
BUSINESSES OF  
AMBLER BOROUGH**



## Recycling Does Pay!

Council received some disturbing news when Waste Management (WM) spoke at a recent meeting. Ambler recycled less material in 2001 than in 2000. Speaking at length with our hauler, I got the skinny on our trash costs. WM has a fixed price contract with the Borough to haul an unlimited amount of trash. Our trash is trucked to one of two places, the Eastern Montgomery County Incineration Plant or a recycling center in either King of Prussia or Dublin. The Borough is charged \$88.53 by the incinerator for every ton burned. WM sells our recyclables and the profit or loss expected from this is reflected in our fixed price contract. Currently WM takes a loss of \$38/ton for co-mingled material and a profit of \$10/ton for newspaper.

Three things happen when residents recycle less; the cost to haul trash to the incinerator increases because more trucks are needed, the bill from the incinerator increases and the Act 101 recycling reimbursement from PADEP for tonnage recycled decreases. The Borough's bill for incineration (\$23,000 for burning 263 tons in May) and trash hauling services are passed on to residents in the form of a quarterly trash fee. In 2000, 1903 tons of trash was incinerated, 364 tons recycled earning a rebate of \$8302. This does not include leaves and bulk pickup. In 2001, 2256 tons were incinerated and 288 tons recycled with a lower rebate of \$8235. The money goes into the Borough's General Fund. An interesting note, of the 288 tons recycled, 189 was newspaper.

The Borough is committed to improving residential recycling rates. This will be done by educating residents on the importance of recycling, looking into the possibilities of adding corrugated cardboard for curb side pickup and setting up a drop off center for large amounts of cardboard. WM also presented suggestions to reduce tonnage incinerated. This included eliminating grass clippings and brush from the regular collection and redirecting recyclable items to recycling bins by placing a limit on the number of trash containers allowed by residents. Council did not seem receptive to either idea and the general feeling was opting for re-education as the first step.

When you place trash by the curb, you should ask yourself just how much you are ultimately willing to spend in order to have the trash disposed of. \$88.53/ton, \$38/ton or in the case of newspaper at no cost at all. So you see, recycling really does pay.

## New Benches Sit in Town



There are 10 new benches sitting on and around Butler Ave. They are of high quality, attractive and very comfortable. They were paid for by the TEA-21 grant received earlier this year. Check them out! HTN gives a "hats off" to the Ambler Main Street organization who worked for this grant.

## New Lampposts Stand Tall



There are 24 new lampposts along Butler Ave. These were paid for by the TEA-21 Grant. They certainly brighten up our town. Another "hats off" to the Main Street folks with out whom our downtown would be a little less bright.

## Parks Get Planning Grant



The PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources has approved a \$10,000 grant to create a comprehensive plan for the Borough's park system. It will define the condition and possible park improvements to meet the needs of Borough residents. When this plan is completed the Borough will be eligible to request "Development" grants from DCNR to help pay for the improvements.



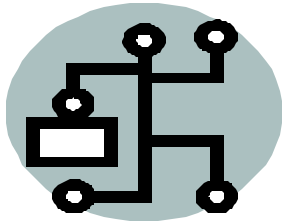
# Ambler Main Street News

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

*"Minds are like parachutes,  
they only function when open"*

### -Bumper Sticker



AMS Manager at Work

- Continue to meet about BID possibilities
- Updating shoppers' guide
- Meeting with Comcast representatives concerning

a "Downtown Ambler" commercial

- Planning a Halloween Weekend in Ambler and partnering with the Kelly Anne Dolan Memorial Fund and the Wissahickon Valley Historical Society
- Meeting with Design Committee with regard to the most recent Façade Grant Program
- Meeting with developers interested in the rail corridor properties.



## Mark Your Calendars!

Tuesday July 30<sup>th</sup> is



Wissahickon Pops time again in Ambler. Each year Wissahickon School students come out in force and play their hearts out in the Ambler Savings and Loan parking lot. Bring your chair and enjoy the music and being in downtown Ambler.



Annual Dog Days is planned for Saturday August 17. Registration is from 9-10AM. Doggie parade down Butler Avenue begins at 10 and then we have pet tricks and then we have prizes and then...who knows what else?! Come on down and find out. We had over 100 dogs last year; let's top that number this year. Register your dog by calling 215-641-1070 and leave YOUR name, address, phone and your dog's name.

## What's new? What's new?

Ryan and Kerri Farragut opened their art and antiques shop called The Pink Clover

on July 1<sup>st</sup>! Welcome to the Avenue!

Kevin Clibanoff of KC'S Alley fame has taken over the management of The Ambler Coffee Company. Jill Neff opened the shop on April 1<sup>st</sup> but with a brand new bambino coming in September her heart and her hands needed to be at home. We wish Jill and her family well and good fortune to Kevin in this new enterprise.

Trax Café offers great jazz to accompany their great food every Thursday night. Stop by and sample Steve's delicacies and Jimi's tunes.



Eleventh annual Oktoberfest scheduled for Sunday September 15<sup>th</sup> from noon until 5PM. This is always a great street fair in the middle of Butler Avenue. If you are a crafter and have something wonderful to sell...please call for an application. 215-641-1070.

Membership is always a good way to keep a good thing going!

Join.

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**

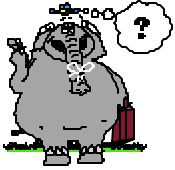
0-5    \$165    16-20    \$330

6-10    \$225    21+    \$550

11-15    \$275

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## Reminders from the Manager

- The blowing or placing of grass or other yard waste in the street is not permitted
- Concrete may not be placed or washed into streets or storm systems.
- You can always write, fax, call or e-mail to me your suggestions on how to make Ambler a better place.
- Large apartment owners are required by state law to provide tenants the ability to recycle their paper, plastic and metal.

## SAAC Hosts August 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, 45 Forrest Ave, 215-619-8863

Aug 7—Healthy Bladder Habits,  
Abington Urological Specialists

Aug 9—Free Hearing Evaluations

Aug 12—Safety Tips for a Safe Home  
by Montco Victim Services Center.

Aug 21—Food Safety by RSVP

Aug 2 & 16; 1pm—Good Spinal  
Health by Dr. David Fuller



## Chronic Sewer Problems to be Fixed

The Borough is proceeding with its plan to repair its aging sanitary sewer system. The first step is to evaluate the most problematic areas. This will be done from inside the sewer line with a video camera.

The pipes will be surveyed for cracks and joints will be grouted to reduce leakage and storm water seeping in. The following areas will be surveyed:

- Tennis Ave - Bethlehem Pike to Hendricks Street
- Rosemary Avenue - Water Street to North Street
- Southern Avenue - Park Avenue to S. Spring Garden
- Euclid Avenue - Bethlehem Pike to Park Avenue
- Cherry Lane - Artman Road to Haywood Road

## Farewell Friends

The Borough bids a fond farewell to two local businesses. Olin-Kearse School of Ballet will be moving to a larger home in Chestnut Hill and Regan's Quality Shoes will close and the owner take retirement.



## Union, Borough Agree to Contract

The Borough is happy to report that it has agreed to a new three year contract with the employees who are represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. The contract reflects a lot of hard work by the bargaining committees for both sides



## SEPTA Shows New Signals

SEPTA demonstrated to Borough officials the new "Second Train Coming" signals. These signals give pedestrians a visual and audible guide when it is safe to cross the tracks. Some minor tweaking is still needed such as designing an new train icon that looks more like this graphic and less like an RV.

## September 11 Time Capsule Planned

The Wissahickon Fire Company and local municipalities are sponsoring a way for residents to freeze in time their thoughts and feelings about the September 11 tragedy. Newspaper articles, cards, letters, drawings capturing your emotions and stories of where you were on that day are being accepted at the fire hall and Borough Hall. It will be stored and opened on the anniversary in 2061.