



Presented by Ambler Borough

Home Town News

April 2004-2



Inside this issue:

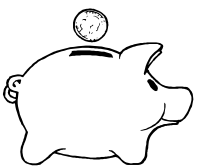
Environmental Corner	2
Summer YMCA Camp	2
Household Hazardous Waste	2
Main Street News	3
Borough Reminders	4
What's at the Library	4



Council Developing 5-Year Plan

In an effort to plan future Borough improvements against the rising costs of operating the Borough, Council has set up meetings to map out expenses for the next 5 years. Borough improvements include capital items such a road repaving, park improvements, grant money matches, sanitary sewer and sidewalk repairs and "Wish List" items such as a recreation center or community pool. To maintain the financial health of the Borough these items must be balanced against revenues generated by property and EIT taxes and other revenue sources. In this formula general operating expenses such as liability insurance, employee salaries, pension contributions, health insurance, new equipment and the overall increasing cost of doing business must be included. As you might imagine this is not an easy task but everyone agrees that developing the plan is the right first step in keeping taxes as low as possible.

2003 Positive Overall



A lot of good things happened to Ambler Borough in the past year. We closed the books on the General Fund with a surplus of \$78,259 from normal operations. New financial accounting and utility billing software was successfully installed and brought 'on-line' to address new municipal reporting standards. A successful PUC filing and bond issue provided the water department with much needed capital funding and lowered interest rates on refunded debt. Installation of drive by water meter readers was largely accomplished in 2003. Ricciardi Park was tremendously improved. Unfortunately, as previously reported here and in Council meetings, the Borough was required to refund \$205,304 of earned income tax (EIT) incorrectly given to the Borough by the tax collection agency for 1999-2002. The Borough used the 2003 operational surplus and

General Fund savings to repay the taxes. When people indicate on their tax forms that they live in Ambler Borough because they have an Ambler, PA mailing address but in fact live in surrounding municipalities, Ambler must refund that portion of the EIT to the payer's municipality.

Proactive Approach for Sewers

Council has approved a 3 year plan to video inspect and grout all 81,000 feet of sanitary sewer under Borough streets. This evaluation will allow for necessary repairs to be prioritized with the most serious problems addressed first. The estimated cost is \$180,000 per year. Environmental agencies such as the EPA and PA DEP will soon be mandating municipalities address persistent leakage problems. Bids are to accepted at the April Council meeting. Just FYI: Care, maintenance and repair of the sewer line between the home and the main are the owner's responsibility.

Did You Know?

In the 1890s Ambler had an opera house, located at Butler and North Maple?

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BUSINESSES OF
AMBLER BOROUGH**



Environmental Corner

By Councilman Louis D. Orehek and
Gilmore & Associates Engineering

Stormwater Run-off

In our last addition, we discussed the subject of stormwater runoff and how we can control if not eliminate stormwater pollution in our residences. This our final issue, we wish to discuss some of the solutions to minimize if not eliminate the runoff and associated pollution from commercial and automotive facilities.

Commercial; Dirt, oil, and debris that collect in parking lots and paved areas can be washed into the storm sewer system and eventually enter local waterbodies.

- Sweep up litter and debris from sidewalks, driveways and parking lots, especially around storm drains.
- Cover grease storage and dumpsters and keep them clean to avoid leaks.

Automotive Facilities: Uncovered fueling stations allow spills to be washed into storm drains. Cars waiting to be repaired can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater.

- Clean up spills immediately and properly dispose of cleanup materials.
- Provide cover over fueling stations and design or retrofit facilities for spill containment.
- Install and maintain oil/water separators.

Construction: Erosion controls that aren't maintained can cause excessive amounts of sediment and debris to be carried into the stormwater system.

- Construction vehicles can leak fuel, oil, and other harmful fluids that can be picked up by stormwater and deposited into local waterbodies.
- Divert stormwater away from disturbed or exposed areas of the construction site.
- Install silt fences, vehicle mud removal areas, vegetative cover, and other sediment and erosion controls and properly maintain them, especially after rainstorms.

Additional storm water information including this series in its entirety can be found on our web site under Streets & Public Works.

HHW Collection Dates Announced

Montco's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) collection program will be held Saturdays from 9am-3pm at the following locations. Call 610-278-3045 for more information.



May 1 – Green Lane Park, Upper Frederick; July 10—North Penn HS, Towamencin; August 14— Temple-Ambler Campus, Upper Dublin; June 26—Norristown HS, West Norriton will hold the first ever electronic equipment recycling event. Computers, printers, monitors, cell phones, faxes and small TVs will be collected.

Rosemont Gets Rosier

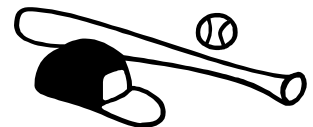
The contract has been let for Giovannone Construction to begin the replacement of sidewalks and curbs in the area of Rosemont and Fairview. Crews should arrive no later than early May. Residents will be notified as the construction date nears.

Summer Camp Registration



Signups for the 2004 Knight Park YMCA summer day camp program will be held 5-7pm on Tuesday May 4 at Borough Hall. Contact Eric Atherholt at the Ambler YMCA for more information.

Knight Work



Work crews have taken to the field at Knight Park The Borough in cooperation with AJB have worked a double-play by raising the pitcher's mound and fill in low spots. This will fix the problem where rain water pools at 3rd base. New sod will be planted making this field ready for play in May.



Ambler Main Street News

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

Making downtown Ambler your social, cultural, and business center!

What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals.

— Zig Ziglar



Upcoming Events

- Sunday May 16– Ambler’s Annual Auto Show. This is always a good time.

Main Street Manager at Work



- Organized and trained additional volunteers to help with various projects in 2004
- Held 3rd meeting with Car Show Committee. Looking into offering a food court made up of our local eateries.
- Working with the building manager of Weldon Auto Parts & Chinese Restaurant about the possibility of exterior façade improvements.
- Updating the AMS database for better communications with business owners and volunteers.
- Working to increase AMS membership, both business and residential.
- Working to get a Thursday evening Farmer’s Market off the ground.



Businesses are open until 8pm on Thursdays.

New Stores

Castles and Cottages at 10 North Main Street with unique furnishings for the home.

TheTimeworks shop formerly of Manayunk is “moving on up” to Ambler with the shop called **Ambler Clocks And Watches**. The location is 127 East Butler Avenue across from Ambler Theater

Ambler Main Street welcomes them both!

“Dogs, Cats, & Ferrets, Oh My!”

The Montco Health Dept. will dispense a 3-year Rabies shot for \$8. Animals must be leashed or in a carrier. For more information call 610-278-5117 x166.



June 5—Abington Recycling Center; June 12—Collegetown Community Park; June 19—Old Lower Salford Township building; June 26—Burnside Oakland Park.

April shower bring May flowers. What do May flowers bring? A wonderful looking downtown. Help us to keep flowering by becoming a Ambler Main Street Member

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Annual Membership; Resident \$35; Landlords \$200

Please send your tax-deductible gift to:

Ambler Main Street

PO Box 36, Ambler, PA 19002

Business membership based on number of employees

0-5	\$200	16-20	\$500
6-10	\$300	21-25	\$600
11-15	\$400	26-30	\$700
		31+	\$800

Presented by Ambler Borough

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Reminders from the Manager

- Spring Leaf Collections are Tuesdays April 20, 27. Yard waste must be placed in the paper yard bags or unlined trash containers.
- Flushing of water mains began April 12th and will continue through July between the hours of 11:00 pm to 6:00 am. This may cause low pressure or discolored water. If these problems persist please call the Ambler Borough Office at 215-646-1000 ext 110 or 111 between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 am.
- Construction on the New Loch Alsh Water Tank will start in April.
- Place trash at curb no earlier than 4:30PM the day before pickup and return cans by 8:00PM after collection.
- Low tree limbs can damage Borough vehicles. Remove those that overhang streets and sidewalks.

Senior Games Held Throughout Montco



The 19th Annual Senior Games will be held May 10-14 at various locations in Montgomery County. Open to residents 50 or older the games combine sports & recreation with fellowship. For more information contact Upper Dublin Parks & Rec at 215-643-1600 x3443 or www.upperdublin.net

What's Happening at SAAC?

The Senior Adult Activity Center events are at 11am; 45 Forest Ave; 215-619-8863.

Monday April 26—"Cancer Prevention" Discuss proactive early detection actions and lifestyle choices.

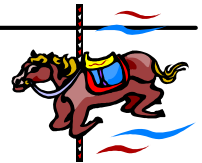
Tuesday May 4—"History Series". Historical Lecture Series continues with "The Campaign to take Philadelphia in the American Revolution".

Wednesdays May 12 -"Simply Good Eating". Six-week series learning how to stretch your food dollar and make your recipes healthier. 2pm.

Tuesday May 18-"Heart Health Diet" Registered nutritionist to discuss food choices and how they can improve cholesterol test results.

Trinity Carnival

Annual summer family friendly events begin on the grounds of Trinity Episcopal Church June 2-5. If you have kids, this is a great value for fun rides and delicious food. Proceeds benefit the Community Cupboard, Interfaith of Ambler, Hope Gardens, St Mary's home for Children to name a few. For more information: www.icdc.com/~taoffice/trinity/carnival.html



Events at the Library

Race Street; 215-646-1072.



Story Hour with Miss Michelle:
Tuesdays 4:30pm

Wednesday, Thursday 10:30am

Apr 27 April in Provence:
7:30pm. Slides and video

May 11 Spelling Bee: 7pm.
Open to all 6th-8th graders

May 18 Magic Show. 7pm.
Magic of Ron Geoffries



For more information <http://www.wvpl.org>

Community Service, Stream Clean-up

The Borough's Stream Clean-Up Day is on Saturday, May 1. Volunteers will meet at Trax Cafe at 9 a.m. and stay for a free lunch provided at a nearby park at noon. For more information call Kimberly, 215-646-2002.

