

The Littlestown Town Crier

April 2011

Published by the Borough of Littlestown for the residents of the Littlestown Borough and the surrounding communities.

A Message from Council President David Wheeler

Spring has arrived, hopefully the doldrums of winter are behind us as we look forward to green lawns, flowers blooming and new growth on evergreens. As the cycle of renewed life plays out within our community it also affects the moods and mannerisms of our residents. Children are outside playing, couples are strolling along the tree lined streets, time seems to slow down a bit as the days get longer. We take a look around and remember why we chose Littlestown to be our home. A picturesque, friendly town that takes pride in its past and has great hope for its future, a place, that time, on occasion, seems to have passed it by.

I look at Littlestown Borough as a Co-op, all the residents are investors, owners and users of what the community offers. As investors/owners we want the greatest return on our investment possible. As users (consumers) we want the best value for the services (products) that we purchase. Therefore when everything is working as it should be the end result is a quality of life that is well above the just "its OK" level. Littlestown has had its ups and downs over the past 246 years without a doubt. That it still exists today is a testament to the people who have and do live here.

There are those who say the best thing to do is "nothing" leave well enough alone. Others who insist that getting rid of everything from the past and starting new is the way to go. Still there are those who say mix the old with the new, keeping the best of both. How to decide? Performance must be measured, we hear that all the time. Some areas are difficult to measure, normally a mix of subjective and objective data tied to the mission (outcome) is a way to ascertain the degree of performance. Community quality of life is much more difficult to measure. The reason, no one is ever completely objective about everything, especially about ones self. We all naturally have our own point of view on virtually any and all subjects. Most will not admit to it, but it is a fact that can not be denied. It is called personal history, it is what shapes you and builds from you base-line beliefs to the person you are today.

The job of government, the elected and hired is to gather, evaluate and present the facts on issues that affect the community. Upon coming to a conclusion that will benefit the majority if not all of those concerned, action must then be taken. Council, staff and residents from the Borough of Littlestown are the ones who bear the responsibility to better position our community for future growth and attaining the best Quality of Life for all.

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REMINDER NOTICE

The Borough of Littlestown Water System is under an Emergency Drought Contingency Plan.

The system is under a DEP mandate to increase the time water is in the pipeline before the first customer after the chlorine is injected into the system. This will require extensive work on some wells and minimal on others. The mandate specifies that wells must be taken off-line, disconnected from the system until work is completed on an individual well basis.

This requirement means that a portion of our well be off-line in months ahead. The Plan calls for VOLUNTARY CONSERVATION ON INDOOR WATER USE and a complete PROHIBITION OF OUTDOOR WATER USE OF ANY TYPE during the plans duration.

Please call the Borough Office with any questions or concerns. REMEMBER, this is still the same water, only the regulations have changed.

**Littlestown Borough Council & Staff
10 South Queen Street
Littlestown, PA 17340**

**sandy@littlestownboro.org - Secretary/Treas.
rebecca@littlestownboro.org - Clerk
publicworks@littlestownboro.org - Tim Topper**

**Telephone: (717) 359-5101
Fax: (717) 359-8441**

LITTLESTOWN LIBRARY

The Borough of Littlestown is pleased to announce the Littlestown Library has been open since January 29, 2011 at their new location located at 232 North Queen Street. Inside the doors of the new library patrons can browse through books and movies or they can relax in the reading room dedicated to the Robert C. Hoffman Endowment Trust. Along with the efforts of the Friends of the library and a generous donation from the Littlestown Eagles and many other donations and community support the Borough once again has a library to be proud of. Please take the time to stop by to check out your new library.

Hours of Operation:

Tuesday—2pm to 8pm
Wednesday—12pm to 6pm
Thursday—2pm to 8pm
Friday—12pm to 6pm
Saturday—10am to 4pm



SWIM LESSONS

As of this Crier publishing there has not been a determination on when swim lessons will be offered. Please check back by mid-April with the office for further details at (717)359-5101.

For more information contact the Borough Office at 717-359-5101.

POOL INFORMATION

The Littlestown Community Swimming Pool will open on Saturday, May 28, 2011 with regular hours, Monday thru Sunday Noon—8pm, after school closes on Friday, June 3, 2011. The last day for the pool will be Monday, September 5, 2011. The pool rules and 2011 membership forms can be found at either the Borough Office, 10 South Queen Street or on the Borough of Littlestown Website at www.littlestownboro.org under forms.

The memberships cost are as follows:

Borough Residents:

Individual Membership—\$75.00
Family of up to 4 Members—\$130.00
Additional Person(s) in Family—\$30.00

Non-Borough Residents:

Individual Membership—\$125.00
Family of up to 4 Members—\$210.00
Additional Person(s) in Family—\$50.00

Daily Rates: Under 6 over 65 — \$2.00, 6 to 65 — \$4.50, After 5pm — \$2.00

Please direct all questions and/or concerns regarding the pool to the Borough Secretary/Treasurer Sandy Conrad at 717-359-5101 ext. 31 or sandy@littlestownboro.org.

A MESSAGE FROM ALPHA FIRE COMPANY

Alpha Fire Company is offering a free smoke detector to anyone living within the company's response area. For more information in regards to this program please call 359-4212.

Save the dates this year's fireman's carnival dates are August 8 through the 13th of 2011.

2011 PRIMARY ELECTION

Don't forget **May 17, 2011** is the primary election.

Residents located in Ward 1 (anyone located South of East and West King Street) will vote at the YMCA, 95 Keystone Street and residents located in Ward 2 (anyone located North of East and West King Street) will vote at the VFW, 11 West King Street. Poles will be open from 7am until 8pm.



Chief's Corner.....



I first want to thank everyone for the cooperation we received during the snow emergencies this winter. I am well aware of the inconvenience of trying to find parking on short notice with bad weather to boot. Hopefully the snow is behind us now and we can move on to summer activities. With that in mind and summer fast approaching we all know that issues that relate to the police increase. I urge all borough residents that if they see problems starting to develop in your neighborhood to please give us a call and we will assist you in addressing them. Our goal is to make sure that you are able to enjoy your summer and not have to deal with problems that can be easily handled by the police dept.

I also want to make you aware that the Littlestown Police Dept. will be sponsoring another National Take Back Initiative for anyone that wants to dispose of old or unused medications. If you are familiar with the program we ran last year we were not allowed to take liquid medications. I have been informed by the Drug Enforcement Agency that we can take them for you this time. The program is free to all residents and it will be held April 30, 2011 at the Alpha Fire company from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. We will have a designated drop off area and you won't even have to get out of your car.

On a positive note if you received the last news letter my article raised concerns over the use of synthetic marijuana products by our children and young adults. I am happy to report that these substances are now illegal to sell, possess or use. This took affect about two weeks ago and our officers have been instructed in the enforcement of the new laws.

I would also like to extend an offer to any Civic, religious, home association or neighborhood group that has concerns or would like to have an officer or myself attend one of your meetings to address your group. Please feel free to contact us and we will schedule a time to attend.

And finally as summer starts we will begin to get a lot of what we term nuisance complaints by residents that we will address but I am asking for citizen cooperation to alleviate some of the problems. Most of these issues deal with code complaints and if left unattended they can affect the quality of life for neighbors and will eventually begin to effect property values. Here is a list of the most common complaints we receive: Abandoned vehicles on private and public property, high weeds and grass, people not picking up after there pets, trash and debris accumulating on private property, loud music and open burning. I am urging all residents to please address these issues if the shoe fits and this will eliminate the need for the police dept. to issue citations for violations. Please be safe and enjoy your summer

Chief Kellar

From the desk of Public Works . . .

As Spring arrives, I would like to provide information for the residents pertaining to several Borough matters.

The first tidbit of information is in regards to Lumber Street. The Borough is in the first phase of Lumber Street's pavement and infrastructure improvement project. This involves new water and sewer lines being installed along with storm water piping and inlets and the reconstruction of the entire roadway. At this time the Lumber Street Wells will be upgraded to meet DEP's ground water regulations.

It is also that time of year that the Borough will start street sweeping all the hard-surfaced streets in town. The public work's crew will be posting "No Parking" signs when your street is to be swept three (3) days prior to the start of the work. This is to allow our street sweeper to get right up to the curb and get the street as clean as possible. Removing parked vehicles from these posted areas will help alleviate any difficulty with this process. This is also an ideal time to clean your sidewalks from winter debris. Your assistance with the above information is important to the efficiency of the street sweeping program.

In June, the Borough crew will be manually reading your water meter inside your house. This is simply a check of the water meter. The manufacturer recommended that this be done every five to six years. If you are not home a door hanger will be left at your door for you to read and fill out and return to the Borough Office.

As always, I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation in these matters. If you have any questions regarding the information discussed in this article, please feel free to contact me at 717-359-5101 ext. 34.

Tim Topper, Director of Public Works

Please help us update our Files

In an effort to better serve you, please take a couple of minutes to fill out the simple form to update our current files. If you would like to receive emails about upcoming events in the community, newsletters and notices please list a current email address.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Current Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

DID YOU KNOW . . .

Residents are reminded that grass must be kept mowed at all times and that they are also responsible for the grass or weeds which have grown through the cracks in the sidewalk and along the curb and street. Grass height may not exceed 12". When mowing your lawn, grass may not be blown, swept or deposited into the street or storm water inlets. If your property is not properly maintained, a citation may be issued, ranging from fines of \$105.00 to \$300.00, with each day constituting a separate violation.

Property owners are also reminded that any outside building construction or renovations to your property or house requires a building permit. When erecting a fence, make sure that you know where your property lines are to avoid any kind of conflict with your neighbors. If you are planning on hiring a contractor to do any kind of home remodeling or construction, please be sure your contractor is registered with the Attorney General before you sign a contract, do not rely on a handshake. All contractors must display their official registrations number on all contracts, estimates and proposals. Taking this step will help prevent home improvement fraud.

If you have any code questions or would like to report a code violation, please feel free to call the Tim Topper at 359-5101 x 34 or publicworks@littlestownboro.org.

Code Enforcement Office

SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM

The Summer Recreation Program will begin June 13th and run through July 22 at Alloway Creek Intermediate School . The program is open to any child who has **completed** kindergarten up until entering 6th grade. Any child that has completed the 6th grade or higher will not be able to attend. The hours of the program are Monday through Friday from 8:30-11:30am. Cost is free to students that attend Littlestown Area School District. A charge of \$.50 will be charged for anyone who would like to purchase a huggie during juice time. The camp is a recreational camp meaning there will be physical activities. There will be an option for children to participate in a craft time. Please remember that the summer recreation program is not a babysitting service therefore if your child comes to the camp and makes no attempt to participate in the activities parents will be asked to remove the child from the program. Please contact the Littlestown Area School District for more information.

CHRISTMAS ON THE SQUARE 2011

After last years successful Christmas on the Square plans are underway to make it BIGGER and BETTER this year for our community. How can you help make this year even better than last year you ask. We are currently seeking donations for the raffle giveaways for the kids and this year opening it up to adults as well. PLEASE HELP MAKE THIS YEAR EVEN BIGGER AND BRIGHTER FOR YOUR FELLOW LITTLESTOWN BROTHEREN!!!

WANTED: Calling all area woodcrafters who would like to contribute to the community. We are looking for a skilled craftperson to construct a Santa Shack for our Mr. and Mrs. Claus to sit in during our annual Christmas on the Square tree lighting celebration. The previous one that was used by the Littlestown Jacyees has seen some better days. IF you or your organization would be interested in helping out the community with a donation or building skills please call (717) 359-5101.