

# Mechanicsburg

## & Community News

### Borough



## BOROUGH WEBSITE UPDATES

The Mechanicsburg Borough website underwent many changes in the past year. We would like to thank residents for their patience with any inconveniences caused by these changes and hope that the end result will be a better Borough website.

We, here at the Borough, want to make the website as helpful and easy to operate as possible for our residents. We have been striving to add the information that Borough residents want, need and will find useful based on frequently asked questions and resident input.

For those interested in getting involved, links to pages with volunteer and employment opportunities can be found under the Home drop down on the main menu bar. To get in touch with any member of Borough Staff contact information can be found on the Contact page a link for which can be found at the far right of the main menu bar (across the top of the website). Each of the different Boards and Commissions' pages are now equipped with an e-mail address for residents to contact the board with, these can be found on their individual pages underneath the listing of board/commission members (pages are listed under Commissions drop down in main menu).

One often asked question is: when is my sewer and refuse bill mailed out / due? Or, how is my sewer bill calculated? As well as, what is the rate for sewer billing? To find easy answers to all of these questions, click the Sewer link under the Services drop down on the main menu bar. Once on the Sewer page of the Borough website, merely scroll down to the tab that reads Sewer Billing, click the link and all of your most frequently asked sewer queries will be answered.

The Highway Department page (link is under Services drop down in main menu) now has leaf pickup maps added for an easier way to find out when to put out your items for pickup. We have also added information about Stormwater Management under the MS4 tab (can be found halfway down the page in the horizontal row of links) on the Highway Page as a way to try to keep residents informed on Borough improvements.

The new recycling incentive program Recycle Right Rewards has its' own page, the link can be found under the Recycling drop down (in the Services drop down on the main menu). The page has all information needed to get involved in the program including contact information and nomination forms. Past months' winners are also recognized on the page. If you have a recycling question, you can submit it on the Dr. B. Green page. All answers will be shared on the webpage.

The website has a second new page with voter information, including important dates/deadlines, maps of the voting wards and a list of the corresponding polling places. The link to the Voting Districts page can be found under the Services drop down on the main menu bar.

Another frequently asked question we receive at the Borough office is "When does my trash get picked up?" We have provided maps of the trash pickup schedule(s) on the Residential Regulations page (the link can be found under the Waste Disposal drop down which is the last on the list under the Services drop down). This page also has a link to the county website that details what is and is not considered Household Hazardous Waste, which answers another FAQ for trash; "Can this go out with my regular trash?"

*continued on page 2*

## QUALITY COMMUNITIES FROM DESOUZA BROWN

### LUXURY YOU CAN RENT.

#### WEST SHORE'S NEWEST TOWNHOME RENTAL COMMUNITY

Spacious 2 and 3 bedroom, 2-1/2 bath dream rental townhomes the whole family will love. Great amenities plus energy-efficient gas heat, full-size washer and gas dryer.



Open: **M-F** 9 AM - 5 PM

Call: 717.458.8919

Directions: 15S to Mech/Bowmansdale exit. **L** at light. **R** at next light at Bumble Bee Hollow Rd, 2nd **R** at Old Hollow Rd.



[www.desouzabrown.com](http://www.desouzabrown.com)



- Swimming pool and fitness center
- Clubhouse, social room, big screen TV
- Walking trails, basketball court
- Friendly to kids and pets with tot lot and bark park



### LUXURY YOU CAN OWN.

#### DESIGN THE HOME OF YOUR DREAMS & ENJOY THE FINEST IN RECREATIONAL AMENITIES

#### MECHANICSBURG/UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP

Featuring one & two-story townhomes and single-family ranch, traditional two-story, and homes with first floor master suite. For a limited time, receive 50% off all options, a FREE Whirlpool Stainless Steel Kitchen Appliance package (including refrigerator), PLUS Washer & Dryer.



Open: **F-T** 12-5 PM or by appointment

Call: 717.458.8474

Directions: 15S to Mech/Bowmansdale exit. **L** at light. **R** at next light at Bumble Bee Hollow Rd, 2nd **R** at Old Hollow Rd.



[www.desouzabrown.com](http://www.desouzabrown.com)

# HOME, SWEET HOMES.

### LIVE IN LUXURY.

#### LOVE WHERE YOU LIVE & ENJOY BREATHTAKING VIEWS IN THESE SINGLE FAMILY HOMES

#### DILLSBURG/CARROLL TOWNSHIP

Choose from five customizable designs of two-story and ranch homes. For a limited time, receive 50% off all options, a FREE Whirlpool Stainless Steel Kitchen Appliance package (including refrigerator), PLUS Washer & Dryer.

THE NEW

## WINDY HEIGHTS

Open: **S&S** 12-5 PM or by appointment

Call: 717-502-7682

Directions: 15 S **L** at Giant (Orebank Rd). Go approx. 2 miles. **R** on Old York. **L** at Grouse Rd into Windy Heights



[www.desouzabrown.com](http://www.desouzabrown.com)



## What's Inside

Borough Website Updates (continued) .....	2
Borough Contacts .....	3
Criminal Mischief in Our Parks .....	3
Mechanicsburg's Recycle Right Rewards .....	4
Commercial Recycling Award .....	4
Borough Employee Receives Recognition .....	5
Mugs & Music Event .....	5
Calendar of Events .....	5
Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce .....	6
Smoke Alarm - Safety at Home .....	6
Volunteer Opportunities for Residents .....	7
Do I Need a Permit .....	8
Restoring Rain's Reputation .....	8
Mechanicsburg Museum Association .....	9



## BOROUGH WEBSITE UPDATES

*continued from cover*

The Codes and Zoning Page (found by clicking the Codes and Zoning link in the main menu bar) received a bit of a makeover in order to make pertinent information easier to find. The link to the page also works as a drop down for links to more frequently searched information for example zoning and building permits. The Codes and Zoning page itself now has helpful accordion drop downs (large rectangles that open up with more information when clicked on) at the very bottom of the page. These drop downs include maps, permits, ordinances and more.

The most exciting change to the Mechanicsburg Borough Website would by far be the launch of our new interactive Community page. The goal of this site is to encourage residents to share information about what's going on in their community and to provide a forum for resident participation and feedback. The site allows residents to see all of the groups and committees that function through the Borough; such as Recycling, Borough Council, Planning Commission, H.A.R.B., Zoning Hearing Board, Environmental Advisory Council, Shade Tree Commission, Community Garden, Recreation and more. Residents can submit community events, yard sale announcements and check out other posts on the community events calendar. The site also features a blog to help keep residents in the know about community notices, and provides a comprehensive list of community resources that may be of use.

**To become a member of the Community site follow these directions:**

- Go to Community Site Homepage:  
[www.mechanicsburgborough.org/community](http://www.mechanicsburgborough.org/community)
- On the Right side of the screen in the gray Login box click on the Register Link (bottom left of the box) – This will take you to the Create an Account Page.
- Fill in Account Details
  - Username: This is what you will use to login to the community site.
  - Email Address: You will receive your activation link as well as information from the groups you join here.
  - Password + Password Confirmation
- Fill in Profile Details
  - Name: This is what will be seen when you post to the Community Site, join and participate in groups, etc.
- Click the red Complete Signup button in the bottom right corner – this will take you to a completed registration page.
- Next you will need to go to the Email Address you entered in Account Details and open the email from the Community site – click on the link in the e-mail and your account will be activated (this should take you to an Account Activated Page).
- Once your account is activated you can login on the Homepage using your Account Details information and begin using the Community Site!




**Gregory Rogalski, PE, LEED AP**  
 Borough Engineer  
 1215 Manor Drive, Suite 100  
 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
 717-975-6481 | [www.pennoni.com](http://www.pennoni.com)

**PENNONI ASSOCIATES INC.**  
 CONSULTING ENGINEERS

**PROVIDING ENGINEERING SERVICES SINCE 1966**  
 Municipal • Transportation • Site Design • Survey  
 Environmental • Structural • Landscape Architecture • MEP  
 Geotechnical • Water/Wastewater • Planning  
 Inspection & Testing • Energy • Materials Testing & Inspection


**Bring this ad for 10% OFF your next purchase**  
 Expires 12/31/14. Not good in conjunction with other sales or special offers.  
 Unique Gift Items • Women's Boutique • Gardening Gifts & Tools • House Plants, Herbs, Seasonal Plants  
 In-Store Bakery • Gourmet

**Ashcombe Farm & Greenhouses**  
 906 W. Grantham Road  
 Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
 (717) 766-7611  
[www.ashcombe.com](http://www.ashcombe.com)



# Borough of Mechanicsburg

36 West Allen Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-691-3310 • Fax: 717-691-3312

webpage: [www.MechanicsburgBorough.org](http://www.MechanicsburgBorough.org) • e-mail: [info@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:info@mechanicsburgborough.org)



## Borough Council

Rodney Whitcomb, President

Jack Winchell, Vice President

John McDermott

Kyle Miller

Scott Pellman

Mark Stoner

Gary Weber

Jack Ritter, Mayor

**The Borough Council meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM  
The 1st Council Meeting in November will be held on Monday the 4th at 7:00 PM**

Patrick Dennis, Borough Manager

Glenda Boyer, Assistant Borough Manager

David Spotts, Chief of Police

**Office Hours – 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday - Friday**

**The Borough Office will be closed:**

April 18th - Good Friday • May 26th - Memorial Day

June 19th - Jubilee Day • July 4th - Independence Day

## CRIMINAL MISCHIEF IN OUR PARKS

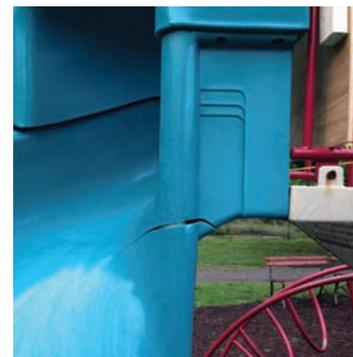


While a certain amount of criminal mischief, generally referred to as vandalism, will occur in any jurisdiction, the public parks in Mechanicsburg have experienced an increase in the severity of damage incurred recently. The Police Department is asking for your help. So far this year, vandalism in the parks has resulted in thousands of dollars in repair costs. Two recent crimes in Koser Park caused over \$1,500 in damages. Another in Memorial Park will likely be over \$4,000 in damages.

Vandals have intentionally damaged electrical systems, power supplies, playground equipment, toilets, doors, locks, windows, siding, dugouts, tables and pavilions. In addition, the Borough refurbished stone work in Memorial Park which was vandalized immediately. Finally, there have also been multiple acts of graffiti, often including vulgar language.



Many children use our parks daily and no parent wants their children exposed to obscenity-laced graffiti. As well as costing the Borough taxpayers money, the damage often cannot be immediately repaired and that impacts the quality of life for all residents and visitors.



Just like the Anti-Terrorism program of See Something – Say Something, the Mechanicsburg Police Department is asking for your help in curbing these acts of vandalism. Memorial Park closes at 10:00 PM and all other parks close at 9:00 PM. If you see anyone going into or remaining in any park after closing, call our non-emergency line at 717-238-9676 to report it immediately. If you see someone in the park acting in a suspicious manner no matter the time of day, please call immediately. We will send an Officer to investigate. Working in partnership with the Community, we can hopefully reduce the amount of vandalism. Help us by being extra eyes and ears in the parks and call in anything that appears out of place.

# Mechanicsburg's Recycle Right Rewards



Mechanicsburg Borough began a residential recycling incentive program in conjunction with Earth Day, April 2014. The Recycle Right Rewards program was designed to increase participation in recycling and improve the quantity and quality of materials diverted from disposal. Each month, a Mechanicsburg household is selected to receive the Recycle Right Reward.

Households eligible for the rewards include those identified by surveys of collection routes or by nomination. The collection route surveys identify households that set out a recycling bin containing only those materials specified in the Borough's Recycling Regulations. In addition to households identified by surveys, Mechanicsburg residents may nominate a neighbor or other Borough resident for being an exemplary recycler. Nomination forms are available at the Borough Office and may be dropped off at the Borough Office for consideration.

One household is selected by random drawing to receive the Borough's monthly Recycle Right Reward. The reward is typically a gift card or gift certificate provided by a local merchant and presented at a Mechanicsburg Borough Council meeting.

## *The following residents have received the Recycle Right Rewards in 2014:*

<b>April:</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Steven Canabello	\$60 Gift Certificate to Sweet Remembrances
<b>May:</b>	Tana & William Birdwell	4 General Admission Tickets to the Mechanicsburg Community Pool (\$48 Value)
<b>June:</b>	Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Van Eman	\$50 Ritter's TruValue Hardware Gift Card
<b>July:</b>	Michelle & Douglas Lauver	\$50 Weis Gift Card
<b>August:</b>	Linda Ann Thomas	\$50 Gift Bag from Starbucks of Camp Hill

The Borough of Mechanicsburg extends its appreciation to local merchants for their generosity in providing the Recycle Right Reward prizes and supporting recycling in the Borough. The Borough thanks its residents for continuing their proper recycling practices and encourages them to recycle all of the aluminum, glass, paper, plastic and steel items listed in the Borough's Recycling Regulations.



**Contact:** *Glenda Boyer, Mechanicsburg Borough Recycling Coordinator*  
(717) 691-3310 • [gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org)

## Thank You to our Sponsors

Mechanicsburg Borough gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of the businesses and individuals who have placed advertisements in our newsletter. Mechanicsburg Borough has been designed and printed at no cost to our taxpayers.

## Commercial Recycling Award

The Mechanicsburg Borough Environmental Advisory Council's Recycling Committee is looking for a business to recognize in November with the Commercial Recycling Award. This award is presented to a borough business that is reusing and recycling products beyond the scope of that required by the Borough's Recycling Ordinance.

Previous award winners are:

2011	Davis Country Living Agway
2012	John Gross & Company
2013	Ritter's TruValue Hardware



The Borough Recycling Committee is looking for your help. The Committee would like to recognize other Businesses within the Borough that do their part to recycle beyond what is required by Borough Ordinance. Do you know of a business that fits that description? If you do, please help us by submitting the name of the business to the Borough Recycling Committee and describe what this business does to enhance the Borough's recycling efforts. It is that easy. So do your part and send your candidates for Best Commercial Recycler to the Recycling Committee. You can e-mail your information to [gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org) or mail it to the Borough, Attention of Glenda Boyer, Recycling Coordinator at 36 West Allen Street. Please include your name and phone number or e-mail in case the Recycling Committee has any questions.

## BOROUGH EMPLOYEE RECEIVES RECOGNITION.

The Central Pennsylvania Water Quality Association (CPWQA) a local organization of professional wastewater treatment operators and support personnel. This year at their Annual Awards meeting, Mechanicsburg Sewer Department Operator Greg Reinecker was honored with the Collection System Excellence Award. This award is given to a person who has demonstrated outstanding or continued quality performance in the collection system position.

Greg joins former Mechanicsburg Sewer Department CPWQA award recipients

1. Glen Heller (C. Eber Wingert Clean Streams Award, 1989)
2. Keith Marston (Maintenance Excellence Award, 1998)
3. Ron Adams (James J. Whitty Outstanding Service Award, 2005).

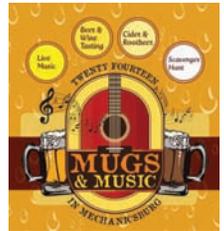
**CONGRATULATIONS GREG!!!**



## Mugs & Music Event Set for September 20th

On Saturday, September 20th hear music fill the air at the First Annual Mugs & Music event in Mechanicsburg sponsored by the Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership. Take in the sights and sounds of downtown Mechanicsburg as you explore local boutique shops, museums, and galleries at this new and exciting event.

Mugs & Music will take place from 1pm – 5pm around Main & Market Streets and will include more than 20 local merchant participants. Each participating location will offer something unique like beer tastings, wine tastings, cider, chili and more. Live bands and musicians will perform at various locations throughout the town as well. In true scavenger-hunt style, make your way to certain participating locations to get your map stamped and you'll be eligible to win one of many great prizes from our local merchants.



Pick up your mug to partake in this event for a \$12 donation in advance or \$15 the day of the event. Mugs will be available starting September 5th at Brittle Bark, 33 W. Main; Caromal Colours, 13 E. Main; and Civil War & More, 10 S. Market.

To find out more about this event visit [DowntownMechanicsburg.com](http://DowntownMechanicsburg.com).

**So come downtown on September 20th and bring your friends and family too!**

## Calendar of Events

### SEPTEMBER

• **September 20** – The Mechanicsburg Rotary Club will hold their annual **Ox Roast** in Memorial Park from noon till 5 PM.



• **September 20** – Downtown Mechanicsburg Partnership – Annual Mugs & Music Event – 1PM to 5 PM rain or shine. Mugs will be on sale for \$12 starting September 5th at Brittle Bark, Caromal Colours and Civil War and More. For more information visit [Downtownmechanicsburg.com](http://Downtownmechanicsburg.com). Washington Fire Company BBQ at Palmer's Automotive. Beginning at 11 AM. Rotary Ox Roast in Memorial Park, beginning at Noon and continuing till 5 PM.

• **September 27** – The Capital Area Pregnancy Center will hold a **Walk for Life** from 8 AM to noon in Memorial Park.

### OCTOBER

• **October 4** – The 7th Annual Washing Fire Company Crab Fest and Pig Roast.

• **October 11** – The Wildcat Foundations Main Street Color Run from 10:30 AM to 2 PM on Main Street.

• **October 14** – The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce will host the **Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade**. The Parade will get underway at the Mechanicsburg High School at 7 PM. For additional information and registration please visit the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce website at [www.mechanicsburgchamber.org/events\\_halloween\\_parade.php](http://www.mechanicsburgchamber.org/events_halloween_parade.php)



• **October 18**– **Streets for Treats** will be held from 10 AM to 2 PM. This event, sponsored by the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce provides safe daytime trick or Treating in the downtown.

### NOVEMBER

• **November 1** – The Mechanicsburg First Church of God will hold a **Turkey dinner** at 5 PM. For tickets call 766- 7501.

• **November 30** – Washington Fire Company Children's Christmas Party.



### DECEMBER

• **December 31** – The New Year's Eve Wrench Drop will be held on East Main Street from 10:30 PM to 12:30 AM.





The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce strives to represent and promote the business community of the Mechanicsburg Borough and its surrounding communities. Through the presentation of numerous events, the Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce helps connect business people to each other and the residents that they cater to. Upcoming events include:

**Tuesday, October 14th – Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade:** Join in an annual Mechanicsburg tradition as volunteers of the Mechanicsburg Halloween Parade Committee present the area’s first Halloween Parade of the season through the generosity of the many community sponsors. Costumed characters, floats, bands and much more usher in the Halloween season. 7:00 PM. Route: S. Broad St, W. Keller St, S. Arch St, W. Simpson St, S. George St.

**Saturday, October 18th – 19th Annual Streets of Treats** children’s festival featuring safe, daytime Trick or Treating in downtown Mechanicsburg. Visit participating businesses in the Borough, as well as businesses that have booths set up on Market Street. FREE and low cost activities, crafts and games. 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM.

**Wednesday, December 31st - New Year’s Eve Wrench Drop** in downtown Mechanicsburg on East Main Street featuring music, food, and the lowering of a 10½’ lighted wrench. 10:30 PM – 12:30 AM.

The Mechanicsburg Chamber of Commerce offers monthly events to its members at no cost: After Hours Business Mixers, Business Leaders’ Coffee Hour (Discussion Group), Business Women’s Networking Luncheon and A.M. Strategies...for Business Success. For information on any of the Chamber events or membership, please contact the office at 6 West Strawberry Avenue; 717-796-0811; info@mechanicsburgchamber.org.

# Smoke Alarm Safety at Home



Smoke alarms are an important part of a home fire escape plan. When there is a fire, smoke spreads fast. Working smoke alarms give you early warning so you can get outside quickly.

## SAFETY TIPS

- ➔ **INSTALL** smoke alarms inside every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home, including the basement.
- ➔ Larger homes may need **ADDITIONAL** smoke alarms to provide enough protection.
- ➔ For the best protection, **INTERCONNECT** all smoke alarms to when one sounds they all sound.
- ➔ An **IONIZATION** smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a **PHOTOELECTRIC**

smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, both types of alarms or a combination ionization and photoelectric alarms (also known as dual sensor alarms) are recommended.

- ➔ Smoke alarms should be **INSTALLED** away from the kitchen to prevent false alarms. Generally, they should be at least 10 feet (3 meters) from a cooking appliance.
- ➔ **REPLACE** all smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

## FACTS

- ! Roughly **two thirds** of home fire deaths happen in homes with no smoke alarms or working smoke alarms.
- ! Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in **half**.

## AND DON'T FORGET...

All smoke alarms should be tested at least once a month using the test button.



[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)

# VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESIDENTS

Do you want to become involved in your community? The Borough offers many opportunities for residents to become involved in important decisions facing our community. The Borough's volunteer boards and commissions address many areas important to the quality of life for Borough residents. If you are interested in these volunteer opportunities, please submit a letter of interest.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

*2nd Tuesday of the month, 6:30 PM – Currently one open seat*

The Environmental Advisory Council is a group of residents that advise Borough Council on any issues related to environmental compliance. The committee engages in public outreach on a variety of issues, such as, stormwater management, air quality and passive recreation. Working within the framework of the Comprehensive Plan, the EAC recommends to Borough Council projects and outreach that promotes stewardship of the Borough's natural resources. As part of the EAC, the Recycling Committee meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month 2 PM, as needed. The Recycling Committee recommends educational outreach on recycling compliance. The committee also reviews and makes recommendations to Borough Council on the municipal solid waste and recycling contract. If you are interested in working with the Environmental Advisory Council or the Recycling Committee, please contact [gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:gboyer@mechanicsburgborough.org).

## ZONING HEARING BOARD – (as needed)

*Currently an opening for one member and one alternate*

Just like the Shade Tree Commission, the Zoning Hearing Board is a legislative body that makes the legal determination on applications for variances and special exceptions in the Borough. The board is made up of three members and one alternate. The board only meets when there is an application submitted that requires action. Currently, there are two openings on this board; one for a member and one for an alternate. If you have an interest in serving on the Zoning Hearing Board, please submit your resume and letter of interest to [trish@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:trish@mechanicsburgborough.org).

## HISTORICAL ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD

*1st Monday of the month, 6:30 PM*

The purpose of the HARB is to review applications for exterior renovations from property owners within the Historic District. The Board reviews all applications submitted for Certificates of Appropriateness and makes recommendations to Borough Council on the applications. The members of the HARB are property owners within the Historic District and professional advisors. If you have an interest in Historic Preservation, please consider sending in a resume for appointment to the HARB. Currently, all positions are filled, but any resumes received will be placed on file and reviewed by Borough Council when an opening is available. Resumes can be sent to [sheenan@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:sheenan@mechanicsburgborough.org).



## PLANNING COMMISSION

*Regular Meeting- 4th- Monday of the month, 6:30 PM with Work Sessions – 3rd Monday of the month, 6:30 PM, as needed*

The Planning Commission reviews subdivision and land development plans and makes recommendations to Borough Council on these applications. Currently, the board is full with Engineers, planners and residents that are interested in land development. If you would like to submit your name to be considered for future openings on the Planning Commission, please submit your resume to [sheenan@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:sheenan@mechanicsburgborough.org).

## RECREATION BOARD

*2nd Tuesday of the month 7:00 PM*

The Borough Recreation Board advises Borough Council on use and planning of Recreational facilities within the Borough. The Board also works with the Mechanicsburg Recreation Department on planning events such as the Borough's annual Easter Egg Hunt held in Memorial Park. If you have an interest in being considered for any openings on this Board in the future, please send your letter of interest to [lhocker@mechanicsburgpolice.org](mailto:lhocker@mechanicsburgpolice.org).

## SHADE TREE COMMISSION

*2nd Thursday of the month 7:00 PM, as needed*

Unlike the other Boards and Commissions, the Borough Shade Tree Commission is not an advisory board. The Shade Tree Commission has the authority to oversee the planting and removal of street trees in the Borough. The Shade Tree Commission works in conjunction with Borough staff to see that trees overhanging roadways are maintained at a height that provides proper clearance for vehicle traffic and to ensure that trees do not obstruct views of signage or at intersections. The Shade Tree Commission is also in charge of the tree placement and removal in Borough parks. If you are interested in getting involved, you can send a letter of interest to [lhocker@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:lhocker@mechanicsburgborough.org).

## POLICE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

*(meets as needed)*

The Police Civil Service Commission works with the Chief of Police on the development of the Civil Service Regulations for the Borough of Mechanicsburg. The Commission meets as needed for the purpose of updating regulations and reviewing and certifying the eligibility lists for Police candidates. The Commission makes recommendations to Borough Council on these matters. If you are interested in being considered for a seat on this Commission when an opening becomes available, please send your information to [lhocker@mechanicsburgpolice.org](mailto:lhocker@mechanicsburgpolice.org).

*Reliability!*  
**IT'S WHAT WE'RE KNOWN FOR**  
Hot Frog Print Media delivers design, print, and mailing services to the Central Pennsylvania area. We have established a foundation of integrity, service, and quality so we can provide the most effective, highest-quality media and services available.  
OFFSET PRINTING • DIGITAL PRINTING • DESIGN • FINISHING  
BINDING • POST PRODUCTION • MAILING

Visit Our Website at [www.HotFrogPrintMedia.com](http://www.HotFrogPrintMedia.com)  
4 West Allen Street / Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 / (717) 697-2204 / Fax (717) 697-8499

## DO I NEED A PERMIT AND WHAT IS A HIC NUMBER?

The short answer to the first part of the title's question is as follows: If you are removing or adding anything to your home that can burn, explode, has water flowing through it, makes heat, conditions air, can collapse, be fallen off of, have electricity running through it, holds up the roof, covers the roof or makes more room in your home, chances are it needs a building permit and the appropriate inspections.



Okay, that really wasn't a short answer, but I would sooner answer that question all day instead of having to contact a property owner after construction has started to tell them they need a building permit and have them hurriedly trying to get the permit and inspections before it delays their project. This is a time of stress as it is, the Borough staff does not wish to compound the stress by having the applicant try to get all the documentation and forms for a permit at the last minute. Permits are something that you should consider in the planning stages of the project. This gives the reviewer plenty of time to make sure all the documentation is in order, your contractor is registered with the state, your project is in line with the codes and ordinances of the Borough and to address any questions you or your contractor have regarding the project. The contractor is not the liable party when it comes to building permits. You can have your contract specify that they are responsible for securing the permits before the project commences, but the property owner(s) is ultimately the one that I am going to be contacting if the appropriate permits are not obtained prior to any construction project. Contractors work in many different municipalities, some of these have different codes and ordinances so a project they completed in Monroe Township that did not require a permit may require one in Mechanicsburg Borough.

Along with the permits are the inspections that the International Building Code requires. The borough has adopted these codes and inspections during the building process assure you that your project is being completed in a manner that is safe for you, your family and neighbors. You as the property owner are living at the project site long after the contractor has finished and moved on to the next project. This is not the time to find out from me a permit was needed or inspections were missed. If the work was done without a permit and inspections were not completed and there is an incident, your insurance company may question the claim for compensation.

One of the questions on the permit application is the contractor's HIC number. This refers to a state law that went into effect July 1, 2009 to protect consumers who hire contractors for home improvements or construction on residential properties. This law mandates all in-state and out-of-state contractors that have over \$5,000.00 a year in total cash value from home improvements, to be registered with the PA Attorney General. This law requires these contractors to carry all the required insurance before they can be registered. The law also states that the contractor is required to have this number posted on all advertisements, contracts, estimates and proposals, and to have a written contract for any project over \$500.00. This registration is to be renewed every two years; this can be verified on the attorney generals website or by calling 1-888-520-6680.

While the permit process may be seen as a big impediment, with the inspections slowing down a project, they are necessary to protect your property and possibly your life. If you have any questions before starting a home improvement project in the borough, call me at (717)691-3310 or email me, [rciecierski@mechanicsburgborough.org](mailto:rciecierski@mechanicsburgborough.org).

## Restoring Rain's Reputation: What Everyone Can Do to Help

Rain, by nature, is important for replenishing drinking water supplies, recreation and healthy wildlife habitats. It only becomes a problem when pollutants from our activities like car maintenance, lawn care and dog walking are left on the ground for rain to wash away. Here are some of the most important ways to prevent storm water pollution:

-  Properly dispose of hazardous substances such as used oil, cleaning supplies and paint – never pour them down any part of the storm sewer system and report anyone who does.
-  Use pesticides, fertilizers and herbicides properly and efficiently to prevent excess runoff.
-  Look for signs of soil and other pollutants, such as debris and chemicals, leaving construction sites in storm water runoff or tracked into roads by construction vehicles. Report poorly managed construction sites that could impact storm water runoff to your community.
-  Install innovated storm water practices on residential property such as rain barrels or rain gardens that capture storm water and keep it on site instead of letting it drain away into the storm sewer system.
-  Pick up after pets and dispose of their waste properly. No matter where pets make a mess – in a backyard or at the park – storm water runoff can carry pet waste from the land to the storm sewer system to a stream.
-  Store materials that could pollute storm water indoor and use containers for outdoor storage that do not rust or leak to eliminate exposure of materials to storm water.



The Mechanicsburg Museum Association has an exciting and varied schedule of upcoming activities and events. Wednesday, September 17th, at 12:00 p.m., Historian, Stephen Runkle, will present the first of a two-part mini history series, “*Lumbering & Rafting in the Susquehanna River Basin*”. The mini-history series will conclude on September 24th with “*The Joller Story – Life in a Company Coal Mine Village*”, which also will be presented at 12:00 p.m.

Our October lecture speakers include Selby Doughty, Independent Scholar, who will present “*Norman Rockwell – It’s a Wonderful Life*”, on October 1st as well as “*Andy Warhol – Fifteen Minutes of Fame*” on October 22nd, both programs begin at noon. Richard Tritt, Photo Curator of the Cumberland County Historical Society, will give a talk on “*Kauffman’s Station at Boiling Springs*” on October 15th at 12:00 p.m. “*Sticks ‘N Stones and Buried Bones – A Key to Cemetery Signs, Symbols and Structure*” will be presented by Researcher Sammi Lehman on Sunday, October 19th at 2:00 p.m. Our October lectures close with Michael Neiberg, Professor of History at the U.S. Army War College, presenting “*The Blood of Free Men: The Liberation of Paris*” on Sunday, October 26th at 2:00 p.m.

Our special events include A Walking Tour of Historic Mechanicsburg’s Main Street on September 20th from 10:00 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. There is a \$5 fee per person. The tour will start at the Mechanicsburg Museum Passenger Station. Winners of the Frankeberger Tavern Dinner Raffle will enjoy a hearth cooked meal on October 18th. The Museum will be participating in the Annual Street of Treats which is also on October 18th with free crafts for the kids, and selling refreshments, including hot dogs, chips and popcorn along with delicious warm cider on the Station Master’s House patio. The Museum will be holding its Annual Christmas

Wreath Sale; orders will be accepted from November 1st until the 19th. Forms will be available on our website. December includes our Gingerbread House Contest with entries due by December 6th and judging the week of December 8th. Rules and entry forms will be posted on our website at [www.mechanicsburgmuseum.org](http://www.mechanicsburgmuseum.org). A Candlelight Walking Tour is scheduled for December 6th from 5:00 until 9:00 p.m. Further details on the tour will be available through our website. Mrs. Claus will have a free program for the children on Saturday, December 13th from 12:00 until 3:00 p.m.

We will round out the year with our last Lifetime Enrichment program of 2014 with Thomas W. Sweeney, former Director of the U.S. Army Military History Institute, as he will present “*The 100th Anniversary of the “Great War”*” on Sunday, November 2nd at 2:00 p.m.

In February, our Lifetime Enrichment talks will resume with our 1st program, “*John Brown*”, presented by Anne Hall, Executive Director of the Franklin County Historical Society on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. Chris Cleaver, Public Affairs Officer at the Mechanicsburg Naval Base will talk about “*The Naval Support Base*” on Wednesday, February 25th at 12:00 p.m.

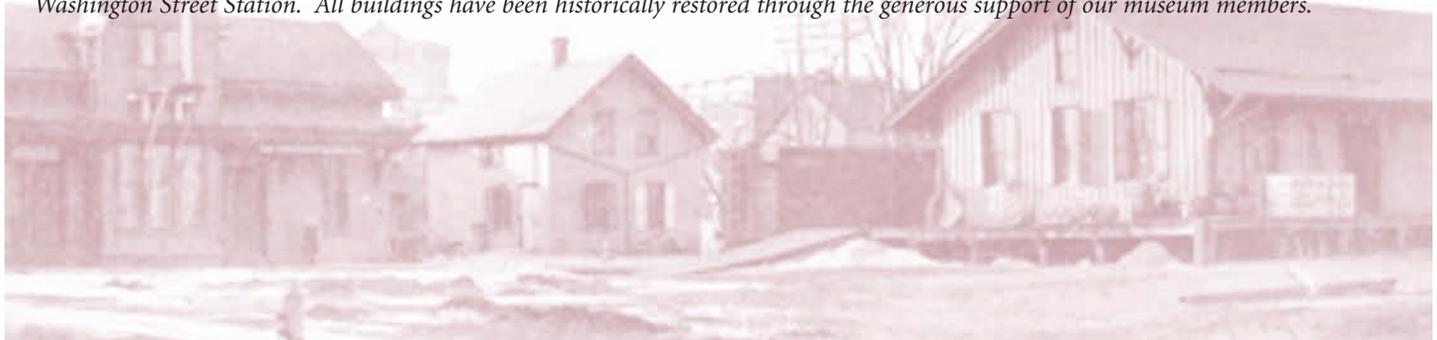
Don’t forget to stop by our Freight Station to view our current exhibit “*A Slice of Life – Mechanicsburg 1876*” which will be on display until October 18th, 2014. This exhibit features historical memorabilia from Mechanicsburg in the 1876 period. The exhibit ties in with the 1876 Centennial in Philadelphia and the celebration of our nation. Things included are local businesses of the time, advertising and artifacts from the 1876 Lock Box that had been opened in 1976. Hours are Wednesday through Saturday from 12:00 until 3:00. Admission is FREE.

Our Christmas exhibit, “*Snowbound – Christmas Express*”, will open on November 15th and run until January 17, 2015. This will be an all new exhibit featuring trains, toys, snowmen and decorated trees. Something for all ages – young and old.

The following exhibit, “*School Day Memories – Mechanicsburg Area*”, is scheduled to open on February 21, 2015 and will close on May 16, 2015. “*School Days*” will feature the schools of Mechanicsburg, Upper Allen and Shiremanstown including their consolidation into the Mechanicsburg Area School District in 1964.

**Admission to all exhibits is free. All of the Lifetime Enrichment lecture series take place at the Passenger Station. Museum members and children under 13 are free; non-members - \$4.00. Light refreshments are served.**

*Membership in the Mechanicsburg Museum Association is very affordable, and provides you with free admission to the lecture series, invitations to special events such as exhibit opening receptions and newsletters. An individual/family membership is only \$35 a year. Come tour our five buildings – the Passenger Station, Freight Station, the Stationmaster’s House, the Frankeberger Tavern and the Washington Street Station. All buildings have been historically restored through the generous support of our museum members.*



# Susquehanna Valley Tree

FREE ESTIMATES • FULLY INSURED  
OVER 35 YRS EXPERIENCE

## RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

For Emergency Call Cell 717-979-3299

- TRIMMING
- PRUNING
- SHRUB TRIMMING
- REMOVAL
- STUMP GRINDING
- EMERGENCY STORM WORK
- TOPPING



SERVING THE GREATER  
SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY  
YEAR ROUND SERVICE



**717-697-1819**  
EAST & WEST SHORE



# Set your course for retirement.

At Bethany Village, you're in the driver's seat.

With a thriving community and a host of amenities and cultural opportunities, Bethany Village provides **more** choices for you to live your life your way.

Call 717-766-0279 to schedule a personal tour!

ASBURY  
**BETHANY  
VILLAGE**  
Anticipate More



325 Wesley Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
BethanyVillage.org



Celebrating 50 years of exceptional retirement living!

*Malpezzi*  
Funeral Home

Michael J. Malpezzi, Owner, FD

Jeremy J. Shartzter, FD

Kyle C. Knipe, FD

Ian J. McCreary, FD

8 Market Plaza Way  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-697-4696  
www.MalpezziFuneralHome.com

**Major's  
Select Collision**  
717-766-4461

www.selectcollisiongroup.com



Select Collision Center | Major's Select Collision | Autobodies By Lucas

Because it matters to you... it matters to us.™

**Autobodies  
By Lucas**  
717-766-0641

www.selectcollisiongroup.com

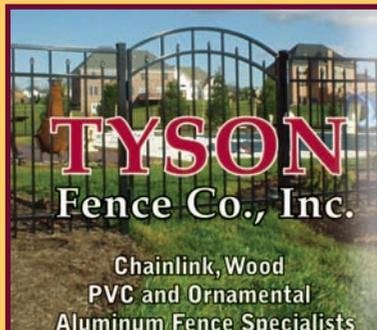


*West Shore's Finest  
in Casual Dining!*

www.snappersbarandgrill.net

*Family owned  
and operated  
for over 15 years*

120 East Allen Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
(717) 697-9475



**TYSON**  
Fence Co., Inc.

Chainlink, Wood  
PVC and Ornamental  
Aluminum Fence Specialists

**FREE GATE**  
with your installation  
mention this ad

7921 Grayson Road  
Harrisburg, PA 17111  
(717) 554-3092  
Fax: (717) 901-3737  
www.tysonfence.com  
info@tysonfence.com



# Borough of Mechanicsburg

36 West Allen Street  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

PRST STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
HARRISBURG, PA  
PERMIT NO. 609



THIS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER IS PRODUCED FOR THE  
BOROUGH OF MECHANICSBURG BY **Hometown Press**  
215.257.1500 • ALL RIGHTS RESERVED®

To Place An Ad Call Sara at Hometown Press • 717-395-1634



We Offer Free Health Care Screenings  
• Baby, Senior, & Business Group Discounts  
• Accepting Workers' Compensation  
• Liquid Medication Flavoring Service  
• Diabetic Supplies & Shoes  
• Dollar Items  
• Canes & Crutches

Caring Beyond Prescriptions®

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY

ALL MAJOR PRESCRIPTION &  
HEALTH INSURANCE ACCEPTED

Mon-Fri 9AM-6PM  
Sat. 9AM-1PM

33 E. Simpson St.  
Mechanicsburg

**697-0551**



**\$5 off \$25 Purchase**

w/mention of newsletter ad

flowers for all occasions

697-9291

**Garden Bouquet**

106 W. Simpson St. Mechanicsburg PA  
www.thegardenbouquet.com  
next to the school house apartments



Walking with Those in Grief



William "Bill" L. Christopher, FD

Robert "Bob" L. Buhrig, Jr.,  
FD, Supervisor

**Myers Buhrig**  
Funeral Home - Crematory

Our Own Crematory

Over 50 Parking Spaces

Safe & Secure Prefunding

Full Café & Reception Services

37 East Main Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
(717) 766-3421 www.Myers-Buhrig.com

## Ritters True Value Hardware

Serving the West Shore for over 100 years!

These services are available in Mechanicsburg:

- |                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Glass Cutting                | Computerized Paint Matching |
| Key Cutting                  | Window Shades Cut           |
| Window & Screen Repair       | Sharpening Service          |
| Thermopane Glass Replacement | Special Orders              |
| Delivery                     | U.S. Post Office            |
| Propane Exchange             | UPS Shipping                |



25 West Main Street • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

(717) 766-7631

Mon-Fri 8am-6pm • Sat 8am-5pm • Sun 10am-3pm

Visit us at [www.rittershardware.com](http://www.rittershardware.com)