

Borough of Beaver

469 THIRD STREET, BEAVER, PA 15009

(724) 773-6700

beaverpa.us

www.beaverpa.us

January 2011

It's "Storytime" in Beaver

Who doesn't love a good story? There's nothing quite like gathering around to hear someone spin a yarn as you're transported to a different time or place. It's magic, really.

And it's this type of magic that the Beaver Business Authority was thinking of when they approached Beaver resident Jennifer Temple to start a new "Storytime Program" for the borough.

Beaver's Storytime Program provides an opportunity for children to gather together for a story, which is usually centered around a theme and activity. The event takes place about twice a month and is held at various locations throughout the borough.

"I enjoy organizing the event," says Temple, "because it brings children of all ages together to learn and play."

So far, Storytime has been held at Boquet Park, the Gazebo, Cafe Kolache, the Fire Station, the Beaver Community Room, and Castle Toys & Games. Attendance is usually between 10-15 children.

"We had a great time at the Fire Station," says Temple. "The firemen gave a brief demonstration on fire safety, and we were able to get up close to the fire trucks."



Kristi Harper enjoys a story with daughter, Abigail.

"I have met some wonderful parents and caregivers who enjoy the event just as much as their children," she says. "The local businesses have also been very supportive, and I hope to get the opportunity to work with more in the future."

If you would like to be on the list to receive flyers for upcoming Storytime events, please e-mail jennifer15009@yahoo.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 12—Lunch at the Library, Beaver Area Memorial Library

March 16—Beaver Chamber of Commerce Meeting

April 19—BACC Bunny Hop, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., downtown Beaver

April 30—Arbor Day Celebration, 10 a.m., Gazebo

May 7—Beaver Town Yard Sale, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. No permit needed.

May 14—Spring Clean-up Day, south side of Third Street

May 21—Spring Clean-up Day, north side of Third Street

May 30—Memorial Day Parade 10:30 a.m., Beaver Area Heritage Foundation (BAHF)

June 11—Garrison Day

These events are brought to you by the Borough of Beaver, Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce, Beaver Fire Dept. and the Beaver Area Heritage Foundation.

Why We Pay Taxes

Everyone pays taxes in one form or another—mostly as income and sales taxes. But why do we pay these taxes?

Many citizen services could not be managed effectively under any other system: infrastructure projects, public security, health services, etc. The federal government uses your tax dollars to support Social Security, health care, national defense, and social services such as food stamps and housing. So why can't each individual pay for these services on an as-needed basis? The short answer: because few would be able to afford it. Each person would have to pay the full cost of the service, regardless of ability to pay.

As Americans, our tax system is an "ability to pay" system, i.e., the more you earn, the more taxes you pay. In turn, the less you earn, the less taxes you have to pay.

Transitioning Smoothly

Since the resignation of the Borough Manager last fall, each Borough Council member has given up countless hours to keep the Borough operating efficiently. Each has responded accordingly to his or her assigned areas of responsibility and has learned from the experience. All of the committee heads have worked within their own committees and with other committees with fervor and perseverance.

Council President Joe Zagorski expresses his sincere gratitude to all Council members for the wonderful job they are doing.

Likewise, the Council members are appreciative of President Zagorski for his expert leadership during this time.

Borough Notes

Be Heard and Informed

Citizen concerns can be addressed via the Borough website (beaverpa.us). If you are unable to attend Council meetings, the minutes from each meeting are also available on the website. Furthermore, in compliance with the Sunshine Law and the Borough's Policy on the Establishment, Publishing, and Posting of Meeting Notices, all notices of public meetings are posted on the Public Notices board at the entrance to the Community Room.

Audit Info

The 2009 Borough audit is available at the library and Borough building for public inspection. The 2011 budget is also available for public inspection. These, as well as other public documents, are available upon request for a nominal fee as per the Open Records Law.

Snow Removal

In order to help our workers keep the streets clean this winter, please remember these important tips: Please do not shovel snow back onto the street; instead, shovel snow into your front yard. Move any mobile basketball hoops away from the street and curb, as the nets can get caught by the tall plow trucks. Please wait until the trucks have finished before you shovel your driveway, and shovel to the right of your driveway to avoid getting plowed in. Park off-street whenever snow is in the forecast (whenever possible). Please clear your sidewalks of snow and ice to prevent slips and falls.

Beaver Police Civil Service Commission

On Nov. 18, members of the Beaver Civil Service Commission took part in an informational webinar, sponsored by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs (PSAB). "Important Changes to the Civil Service Regulations," discussed Senate Bill 910, which amends the Borough Code as it pertains to civil service for police and firemen. Commission members in attendance were John Guzzetti, Chair; Charles Casbourne, Midge Sefton, Jim Todd, and John Rackley. Members of the Education and Special Services Committee, who arranged the webinar, also attended.

Dear Resident,

If you are someone who has thought about serving your community in local government, let me suggest a course offered by Local Government Academy.

"Contemplating Governing" is an introduction to serving in local government. Sessions help individuals decide if local government service is right for them and encourages responsible campaigning. "Contemplating Governing" focuses on the tasks and issues facing local government in the 21st century, and provides citizens with the chance to consider the opportunities, challenges, requirements, and reasons to serve in local elected office.

If you are interested in attending or require more information, contact L.G.A. at (412) 237-3171.

—John W. Wolbert, Chair of Education and Special Services Committee

Sled Riding Notice

The Borough's liability insurance company has required some changes to be made in past practices as to sled riding. The changes include the following:

All sled riding and similar activity is now **totally prohibited in Wayne Square Park** (corner of Beaver Street and River Road).

Sled riding is permissible in Roosevelt Park, subject to certain restrictions:

1. The activity must occur within the marked course only.
2. The participant must be a resident of the Borough of Beaver. The course is not open to use by non-residents.
3. The activity is prohibited after sunset.
4. The activity is prohibited when the course is closed because of dangerous conditions, such as ice patches and/or bare spots.
5. All posted signs (such as "Course Closed") must be obeyed.
6. Any child under the age of twelve (12) must wear a protective helmet.
7. Inner tubes and metal or plastic disks are not permitted on the course.

Beaver Borough thanks you for your cooperation.

Your Municipal Supervisor

— Scott Snyder

Scott Snyder has been doing work for the Borough for over 21 years—the last five as an employee. In the 16 years prior, he served as an outside contracted electrician while he was employed at Conserve Electric.

Scott is a certified Journeyman Wireman trained in the IBEW apprenticeship. He is currently Beaver's Municipal Supervisor, overseeing the Borough's water and wastewater facilities and systems. He is also certified by the State of Pennsylvania in both water and wastewater treatment.

Scott is 42 years old. He and his wife, Wendy, have been married for 22 years and have three children. Their son, Taylor, is currently serving in the Air Force and is stationed in Texas. Their two daughters attend school in East Palestine: Chloe is a sophomore at East Palestine High School and Delaney is in the 6th grade at East Palestine Middle School. Scott's girls are very active in school athletics and various other activities, and he attends many events as a proud father.

Scott is also an avid Pittsburgh sports fan who roots for the Penguins, Steelers, and, yes, even the Pirates!

Council Update

Council Selects New Member

In November, Beaver Council selected Walter McDermott to replace former 1st Ward Councilman Mike Lacey. McDermott's experience includes 23 years in the California state fire marshal's office as deputy chief, where he oversaw code enforcement for the entire state. McDermott is chair of the Highway and Equipment Purchases Committee. Welcome!

Wayne Square Park Gets New Playground Equipment

The Recreation Committee ordered playground equipment for Wayne Square Park. The equipment, which cost approximately \$4,000, includes a Bouncy Bumble Bee, Bouncy Lady Bug, two swings, and two see-saws. Shirley Sayers, committee chairperson, said that the new equipment is set to be installed this spring. If the budget permits, the committee will look into new equipment for the other parks in town as well.

Feasibility Study Update

After nearly a year of study, a presentation on the Pool and Bathhouse Facility and Indoor Recreation Facility was presented by the consultant to Council at a special meeting on Nov. 23. The sites considered for the Indoor Recreation Center were the Eaton Property, with a development cost of \$5,748,850, and the Brighton Road interchange property, with a development cost of \$6,108,240. The costs for the swimming pool renovation were \$1,383,800 without a splash pad and \$1,959,316 with a splash pad. Council will review these studies and determine what best meets the needs of the community within a sound budget.

New Borough Policies

Council has adopted the following policies to better serve the Borough. All are available online for your review:

Advisory Committees, Use of Advisory Committees, Ad Hoc Committees, Standing Committees; Establishment, Publication, and Maintenance of Policies; Establishment, Publishing and Posting Meeting Notices; Internet and Email Use, Computer Use Policy; Hiring Policy: Police Officers (Uniform) Personnel; Banking Institutions, Accounts, and Access; Utilizing Advisory Groups, Shade Tree Resolution, Beaver Festival Policy

PSAB Webinars

Council members and employees are taking part in the webinars presented by PSAB, which focus on state and local issues. Topics have included the "Open Records Act," "Important Changes to the Civil Service Regulations," "Municipal Bonds & Other Financing Options in 2011," and "CDL: Drug & Alcohol Policy and Procedures," to name a few.

Sayers Named VP

Shirley Sayers was elected as the new Council Vice President on November 3, 2010. Shirley started serving on Council in 2006 and started her second term in 2010. A resident of the Third Ward, Shirley currently chairs the Emergency and Recreation Services committees and serves on the Wage and Personnel Committee. She retired from the PA Department of Health in 1997. Following retirement she volunteered for many years with the Beaver Area Chamber of Commerce. Shirley and her husband, Rich, currently reside on Corporation Street.

The next Council meeting is Tuesday, January 11.

New Ft. Mac Marker



The new historical marker for Fort McIntosh on River Road near Market Street is now taking shape. The stone work is completed (see photo) and will soon be followed by the placement of log sections in the lower half of the structure. The logs are actual remnants of logs originally salvaged from the fort itself, and which for many years were incorporated in a log house, the remnants of which were reconstructed for the log house that is now a part of the Beaver Area Historical Museum. The completed structure will become a living example of the construction methods and materials used in building Fort McIntosh in 1778.

Capping the wall section between the stone pillars, or "chimneys", is an engraved granite panel identifying this as the site of Fort McIntosh, with an inscription that bears witness to this site as the Birthplace of the First American Regiment – the first permanent regiment of the U.S. Army – now designated as the Presidential Honor Guard, with regular duty at the White House and Arlington Cemetery, plus many other ceremonial events.

The historical marker, together with the plaza that recalls in smaller scale the actual shape of Fort McIntosh, is the gift of Mr. Tom Bryan, who provided the materials and labor to erect this unique permanent structure. An appropriate dedication is planned for next May, by which time landscaping and lighting are expected to be complete.

— Bob Smith

The Bobcat Players

2011 Bobcat Player Auditions will be held Saturday, January 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Thursday, January 13, from 7 to 10 p.m.; and Saturday, January 15, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Actors are asked to prepare a 1- to 2-minute monologue and perform selected readings from the scripts. 15-minute slots may be reserved by calling Patti Ross at (412) 953-0237 or e-mailing bobcatplayer07@yahoo.com.

Spring Performance: MOON OVER BUFFALO
by Ken Ludwig; directed by Heather Giammaria
3/25, 3/26, 3/31, 4/1, 4/2

Get Involved with BAHF

You probably know the Beaver Area Heritage Foundation oversees Beaver's award-winning museum, 1802 log house, and the Ft. McIntosh site. (Incidentally, the beautiful new Ft. Mac site marker and the newly refurbished Revolutionary War cannon are scheduled to be dedicated on Memorial Day 2011.) You may not realize our organization is also responsible for the Memorial Day parade and ceremony, Garrison Day, Fourth of July activities, Beaver Tales, educational programs for our school children, an evening speaker series, periodic social events, and other activities. We are dedicated to preserving the rich heritage of the Beaver Area while enhancing our present-day community life.

You can get involved in a variety of ways. BAHF annual membership dues are only \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. These annual fees help support our ongoing activities. We are always in need of volunteers for various activities at the museum. This is a great way to meet fellow residents and provide an important community service. Perhaps you have artifacts, photos, or documents relevant to Beaver's history that might qualify for the museum's growing archives.

Would you like to research a certain aspect of our local history? Interesting topics might include the history of our retail district. What stores were operating 50, 100, and 150 years ago? When were taverns outlawed? Also, what is the significance of the various street names in Beaver? Maybe you would enjoy putting together a history and timeline of church planting in the Beaver Area. There are many interesting aspects of our local history that are well worth researching and preserving for future generations.

For additional information and a membership form, visit the BAHF website, beaverheritage.org. If you want to get involved, you can also contact current President Dave O'Leary at (724) 728-4099 or olearydavidc@gmail.com.

Special Needs

In the event of natural or man-made disasters it is important that the Beaver Borough Emergency Operations Center (EOC) is aware of all residents who may need special assistance. Special Needs residents are those who would not be able to hear the emergency siren due to hearing impairment or those with medical conditions that would require special assistance in the event of an evacuation.

Borough residents will soon receive a mailer containing emergency information and a Special Needs notification return card. Residents requiring special assistance during a disaster should fill out this card and mail it back to the address on the card. All information will be kept confidential and will only be used in the event of an emergency. The information is gathered by the county Emergency Services Center and is distributed to our municipal EOC. Even if you have returned a Special Needs card in the past, you need to submit a new card every year. If you have any questions or if you have not received the mailing by the end of January, please call Beaver County Emergency Services at (724) 775-1700.

—Dave Linkimer, Emergency Management Coordinator

Police Blotter beaverpolice.us

The Beaver Police Department has been working diligently on a few projects and is interested in volunteers to help these projects succeed and grow.

Beaver's School Resource Officer has been working with different groups of students on different projects at the Fort McIntosh Club, located directly across the street from College Square Elementary School. A cooperative agreement has been established between the club, the police department, and the school district. The Ft. Mac Club is opening its doors on Mondays from 2:30–5 p.m. after school for Beaver Middle School students to come and use the facility free of charge. Officers from the police department and community volunteers stay with the kids and provide supervision. This is a great relationship-building tool for all involved. If you would like to volunteer or learn more about the program please contact the police department.

The police department has also embraced another venture for the youth of the community—revamping the tennis courts behind the County's Housing Authority building in Vanport, next to the baseball fields. Options for this area include a skateboard park, and a deck hockey arena and/or basketball court. Talks with Vanport Twp. have gone very well, and many people seem to be interested in the project. If you have any expertise in this area or would like to be a part of making this project a success, please contact the police department.

Beaver P.D. has also been in discussions with Eaton Corporation and the Beaver Boosters Association for the transition and improvement of the parking lot closest to Georgetown Lane and next to the baseball fields in Vanport. Eaton is considering an agreement with the Boosters to use this parking lot to help alleviate parking issues for baseball games and other events held at the fields. Also on the table is the clearing of a small area of woods that would allow access from the outfield area of the high school baseball field across to the parking lot. Possibilities include a picnic area and a walking bridge across the creek to the rear corner of the parking lot.

Did you know that the police department has recently started to offer a self-defense class for women? The class is called S.A.V.E. – **S**exual **A**ssault **V**iolence **E**scape. It is physically intensive and provides both mental and physical strategies and techniques to escape from a sexual assault, even if the attacker is bigger and stronger than you. If you would like more information on the course please visit <http://saveitselfdefense.weebly.com> or contact Officer Ken Stahl of the Beaver Police Department at (724) 773-6709.

Lunch at the Library

Come join the Friends of the Beaver Area Memorial Library on Saturday, March 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. for "Lunch at the Library." This special event will feature a variety of homemade soups and desserts, all available for purchase at a reasonable cost. Proceeds from the event will be used for library operating expenses.

Come support your local library and get your family some delicious, home-cooked goodies!

Our Community Forest

Thank you, to our residents and business owners, who have participated in the spring and fall tree planting program over the years. These trees will enhance our community for years to come, and are part of the effort that made Beaver Borough "Tree City U.S.A." once again. This is an honor that makes a statement about our town. It says that we care about our environment and the quality of life for future generations. Our trees, as part of a managed community forest, play an important role in making Beaver an enduring, special place.



As part of our tree program in Beaver, we have a five-person tree commission and tree maintenance ordinance. The tree commission is responsible for overseeing the trees in our parks and along our streets on the borough right-of-way, or "Borough strip" as it is often called. The paved street is usually only part of the borough right-of-way. For instance, Beaver Street is a 100-foot right-of-way, but only 40 feet of it is paved. Therefore, the remaining 60 feet is divided by 2 with a 30 foot "Borough strip" on either side of Beaver Street. Thus, 30 feet of any front yard from the curb back is owned by the Borough. Each property owner has the use of the 30 feet and, by ordinance, is required to maintain it, including the curb, sidewalk, grass, shrubs, and trees planted thereon. From time to time the trees need to be pruned by a qualified professional, and removed when they die or decline and become a safety hazard.

When you want to plant, prune or remove a tree in the "Borough strip," you are required to obtain a permit from the Tree Commission. There is no charge for a permit, and it is our way of ensuring that the tree work is done by a qualified professional. Avoid contractors who advertise "tree topping" or "brown reduction," as these are destructive practices that cause a rapid deterioration in the health of the tree.

Applications for a tree permit are available at the police desk in the municipal building at 469 Third Street. Leave the completed application with the clerk and it will be picked up by a member of the tree commission. After reviewing the application, a member of the tree commission will visit your property and examine the tree (s) to be pruned or removed. At this point, a permit may be issued or you will be contacted with any questions or suggestions we might have.

Members of the Tree Commission are available to assist you with any tree questions you have. Please do not hesitate to call. Our goal is to promote the community forest as one way to keep Beaver as a special place to our residents, businesses, and visitors, as we look to the future.

Tree Commission members:

J. Philip Colavincenzo	(724) 775-8550 or (724) 728-1197
Jeff Lloyd	(724) 775-0609
Jim Foster	(724) 775-6729
George Orr	(724) 728-8603
Tim Stancec	(724) 987-2068 – Certified Arborist

Please join us for our annual Arbor Day Celebration at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 30, 2011 at the gazebo in Irvine Square.

Lessons Learned

Last year, everyone – governments and residents alike – struggled to keep up with the ice and snow that clogged the streets and sidewalks that, at times, seemed never-ending and insurmountable. The Borough has developed a snow removal plan, prioritizing and targeting traffic routes to keep traffic flowing and our business district, homes, and garages accessible. Beaver does not currently have an ordinance specifically addressing removal of snow and ice from our sidewalks, but the Borough's Code of Ordinances, which can be accessed at www.beaverpa.us, under "Borough Government/Ordinances," is not completely silent on the issue:

Chapter 21, §201: **Responsibility of Property Owner.**

All curbs and sidewalks within the Borough shall be the full responsibility of the abutting property owners. The owners shall construct, maintain, repair and/or replace any and all curbs and sidewalks abutting their premises and keep them in safe condition at all times. (Ord. 517, 3/12/1968, §1).

Chapter 21, §212: **Requirements for Drainage Across Sidewalk.**

Where the property owner desires to discharge storm or surface water directly onto the street, the drain crossing the sidewalk will be of a metal box type channel and a metal cover as approved by the Borough. No circular pipe sections will be permitted. (Ord. 517,3/12/1968, §13).

Taken in concert, these two ordinances might be interpreted that it is the property owner's *responsibility* to keep snow and ice build-up from creating an unsafe condition. But that determination can be subjective without a specific, defining policy. That will take some thought and input not only from my committee but also from the public. The Policy, Procedures and Code Enforcement Committee holds meetings every fourth Wednesday of the month at the Borough Building. You are invited to come and help create a workable definition we can use to make our streets and walkways safer.

In the meantime, please take a little extra care by keeping water runoff from gutters and downspouts from accumulating and freezing on the sidewalks this winter. Where you can, redirect water away to where it can safely and slowly leach away before freezing and keep the walks cleared of heavy accumulations of snow as best you can. We realize that may be easier said than done for many of our citizens, and we hope to organize a list of those able available to assist those in need. Visit the website for progress on this initiative.

—Dan Deceder, Councilman Third Ward
Chair of Policy, Procedures and Code Enforcement Committee

Zoning Officer's Message

The purpose of zoning is to plan the use of land. This may sound a bit over simplified, but it is basically true. The details are in what is called the Zoning Ordinance. An application must be completed to obtain a permit to legally build a structure on any property within Beaver Borough.

Nearly everyone understands this for structures like houses, additions, and garages. But it also includes sheds, fences, decks, porches, and any kind of roof. If your building is commercial, it includes signs and parking requirements.

Zoning also controls uses of the land. Did you know that only two yard sales are permitted per parcel per year? Or that no signs may be attached to Borough trees or utility poles? Or that real estate signs may not exceed six square feet in area? These are things that we don't normally give a second thought, especially with regard to zoning.

When installed at ground level—like driveways, patios, and walks—they are exempt. Nearly everything else built above ground level has some guidelines to follow.

When considering building on your property, you almost always have to get a permit. So, if you are not sure, please call the Zoning Office, and we will do everything we can to answer your questions about your project.

To talk directly with the Zoning Officer, phone or walk-in between 8 –10 a.m., Monday through Thursday, or you may leave a voicemail message any weekday between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Your call will be returned the next day I am in the office.

—David Hagen, Zoning Officer

Scout Completes Project

Jack McLaughlin, 17, recently completed a community service project in the fall of 2010 at Roosevelt Park, commonly known as the "Water Lot" or the sled-riding hill. With the completion of this project, he has earned his Eagle Scout rank—the highest honor that a Boy Scout can earn.

Jack, a junior at Beaver Area Senior High, completed the community service project with the help of friends and students from the Beaver Junior ROTC and other scouts. He also incorporated a number of local contractors that graciously provided their professional services for the project, which included clearing the overgrown stone cistern on site, re-establishing the fence, and installing an east-facing bench at the site.

Jack is the third generation of his family who has helped with projects at this particular site. His grandfather, John McLaughlin, worked with the Rotary Club on reestablishing the existing stream bed in the mid 1970s.

Beaver's Drinking Water Source

By Chuck Etta

Beaver Borough Engineer, Water & Wastewater Systems

Beaver's water source is five wells located by the riverfront. But that's only part of the story.

Beaver Borough obtains its water from the legendary "Underground River," or as Pittsburghers like to call it, the unnamed "Fourth River." The correct name is the Wisconsin Glacial Flow. It's actually not a river at all but rather an underground aquifer confined by solid rock on its sides and bottom, which is filled with gravel and coarse sand and has a covering of silt and clay. The aquifer is separate from its surface counterparts.

The "Underground River" was formed during the Ice Age, and flows south from the Great Lakes area along the Allegheny and Ohio rivers. The aquifer holds a massive quantity of water and is recharged by natural processes like rain and snowmelt. It is also the source of water for the fountain at Point State Park.

The water that Beaver Borough pumps from the aquifer is free of coliform bacteria, and along with disinfection, the treatment process also inactivates 99.99 percent of viruses.

This unlimited source of pure water is why Beaver Borough is able to supply a high quality drinking water to its residents at a very affordable price.

Website Traffic Grows Steadily

Beaver Borough launched its official website (beaverpa.us) in Feb. 2008, averaging slightly over 900 "unique visitors" per month during its first year online. A unique visitor is a count of how many different computers access a website. A recent statistical evaluation of Web traffic showed the Borough's site use more than doubled to over 2,000 per month during 2010.

Not surprisingly, the most frequently visited pages of the website are, in order: Events/Festivals, Town Calendar, Government, Visitor's Center, and Visitor's Center/Dining. Another popular feature is the "Borough Feedback" page (www.beaverpa.us/government/feedbackform.html), which allows anyone to address comments/suggestions/questions directly to all council members and receive an e-mail response.

The "Beaver Alerts" page allows you to sign up to receive periodic e-mails that provide timely information on Borough events, programs, and general news of interest, including this semi-annual newsletter that you can forward on to friends and relatives. While over 300 households that have already signed up, we encourage you to help us reach the goal of having all 2,000+ Borough households linked electronically to town happenings. Simply provide your e-mail address at the www.beaverpa.us/government/newsletter webpage.

If you have any constructive suggestions for new website content or great photos that we can post, please let us hear from you.

Business District Update

In 1987, Beaver Council authorized the creation of the Beaver Business District Authority to serve as the “community organization responsible for overseeing the on-going development of Beaver’s central business district and all other commercial zones.”

At first the Authority concentrated its efforts on improving the look of its storefronts. Through grants from the Community Development Program of Beaver County, Third Street merchants were able to spruce up their facades with new paint, awnings, and exterior coverings. Many times, these projects re-discovered beautiful original architectural features.

Over the years, through the Beaver County Main Street Network, a comprehensive downtown revitalization program offered through the Community Development Program of Beaver County, the Authority began to embrace other initiatives as well. It continues to give much attention to Architecture & Design, which is a part of a four-point comprehensive Main Street Approach to downtown revitalization. It also concentrates on Business Development, Community Life, and Organization. Business Development concentrates on bringing new merchants to Third Street and encourages existing merchants to expand their current businesses. Welcome letters are sent to newcomers and information regarding façade improvement grants are distributed and explained. Community Life’s goal is to attract people to the downtown, promoting business life and encouraging social life through events, festivals, holiday celebrations, craft shows, and more.

Quarterly e-newsletters enable information, photos, and a Calendar of Events to be shared with a greater number of residents. In addition, there are also articles on Downtown Recognition, in which an individual, business, organization, or event is recognized for outstanding contributions to the downtown. New businesses are highlighted with information about store hours, products, and services, thereby introducing them to the community.

The Beaver BDA is a hard-working group of volunteers who meet the fourth Wednesday of the month at 8:30 a.m. in the Beaver Community Room. Current members include William D. Cooper, Chair; Mary Anne Peluso, Architecture & Design Chair; Shirley Sayers, Business Development Chair; Mary Jo Yarris, Community Life Chair; Don Dawson, Board member.

For more information, contact Town Center Associates at (724) 728-0500, or visit towncenter.info. To subscribe to the *Third Street Focus*, visit beavercountymainstreets.com and click on “Beaver.”

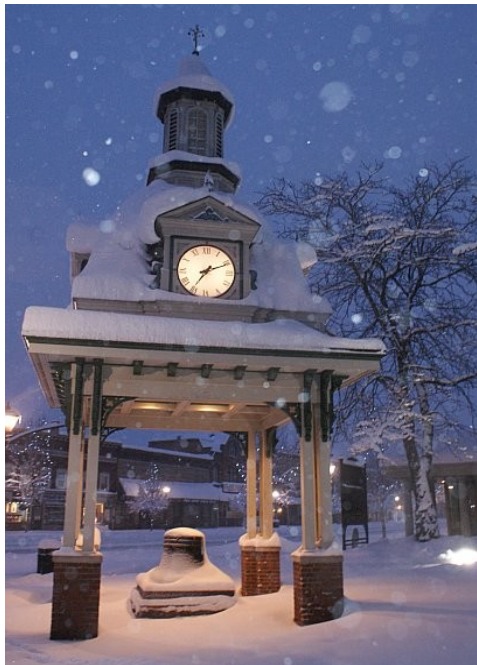


Photo by Stephanie Higgins (2010)

BVFD News

beavervfd.org

This holiday season, the Beaver Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) wants to express our sincere thanks for the overwhelming support we receive from the citizens and businesses of Beaver. Without your support, we could not provide the level of service that we strive to provide to our community.

We are looking for new members to join our team. Our membership level is currently at only 75%. Not all volunteer firefighters have to run into burning buildings or climb ladders; there are jobs for everyone. Members with mechanical, technical, electrical, engineering, business, financial, administrative, fundraising, and many other forms of experience can all contribute to a volunteer fire department.

In 2010 we also started a Junior Firefighter Program for youths 14-18 years of age. Junior Firefighters have the opportunity to train side by side and participate in all of department activities while performing limited duties at emergency scenes. The experience gained by Junior Firefighters can be invaluable in future careers in emergency services and on college applications.

Membership in a volunteer fire company is not for everyone; it requires tremendous personal commitment. In addition to accepting the inherent risk and inconvenience of responding to emergencies whenever and wherever they occur, the volunteer has to participate in extensive and regular training to develop and maintain a wide variety of skills. However, the personal rewards from serving your community, and ultimately your country, cannot be measured.

In the months following the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, the fire service saw a marked increase in membership applications. Unfortunately, the interest has dwindled. Those of us in the fire service have adopted the motto “we will never forget,” and we ask that you do the same. Please don’t forget those firefighters who have made the ultimate sacrifice. Please support your volunteer fire department.

In 2011 the BVFD will be celebrating 175 years of serving our community. What better time to join such a long and rich tradition! If you are a resident of the Borough of Beaver, and you are interested in helping protect your community and would like to be part of a team steeped in almost two centuries of tradition, we encourage you to join us. We meet the first and third Tuesday of each month at our station, and we challenge you to make a difference.

Stop by the station to pick up an application, e-mail us at beavervfd@comcast.net, or call us at (724) 773-6713.

Winter Weather Reminder: Residents are reminded to help out the BVFD by removing snow at least 3 feet from around fire hydrants in front of or near your homes. Valuable time is lost if access to fire hydrants is blocked by piled snow!

Borough of Beaver

469 Third Street
Beaver, PA 15009

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 297
BEAVER, pa 15009

Stay Informed

The Beaver Borough newsletter is also available in electronic format. If you'd like to receive the newsletter via e-mail, as well as regular alerts about Borough news and events, please sign up at:

www.beaverpa.us

Call for News

The Beaver Borough Newsletter is a great way to share good news with your neighbors. If you have information about an upcoming non-profit or charitable event that you'd like to promote, please e-mail it to Valentine Brkich at valbrkich@gmail.com.

Next issue: **May 2011**

Submission deadline: **March 18, 2011**

Know Your Borough Leadership

Council Committees and Chairs

General Government and Property—Kay Nestor
Water and Sewage—Michael Deelo
Education and Special Services—John Wolbert
Emergency Services and Wage & Personnel—Shirley Sayers
Finance—Lauson Cashdollar
Highway and Equipment Purchases—Walter McDermott
Policies, Procedures, and Code Enforcement—Dan Deceder
Recreation—Alexander Andreas

Borough Office:

469 Third Street
(724) 773-6700
Office hours: Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Meetings (held in the Beaver Municipal Building, 469 3rd Street)

- Beaver Council, 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.
- Shade Tree Commission, 4th Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Municipal Bldg.
- Planning Commission, 3rd Monday of the month, 7 p.m., Municipal Bldg.
- Business District Authority, 4th Wednesday of the month, 8:30 a.m., Municipal Bldg.

Beaver Borough Council Members

Joe Zagorski, President of Council – Ward 1
Walter McDermott – Ward 1
John Wolbert – Ward 1
Kathryn Nestor – Ward 2
J. Lauson Cashdollar – Ward 2
Alexander Andreas – Ward 2
Daniel Deceder – Ward 3
Shirley Sayers, VP of Council – Ward 3
Michael Deelo – Ward 3

Mayor Thomas Hamilton (724) 773-6701
Solicitor John Petrush (724) 775-8600

*The Beaver Borough newsletter is published by the
Education and Special Services Committee
of Beaver Borough Council:*

*John Wolbert (Chair), Kay Nestor,
Alexander Andreas*

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