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*Health Officer*

### Borough Office

Phone: 473-3414  
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**THE BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND**  
<http://www.northumberlandborough.com>

## Northumberland History On Display

Northumberland and Point Township are making history. History Day, that is! Saturday, May 10, 2003 has been chosen for the celebration of the First Annual History Day to be held in King Street Park. Other locations throughout the Borough will have tours and presentations, as well.

The Northumberland-Point Township Revitalization Committee's goal is to promote an awareness of our community's past. Local

schools will be holding a poster contest, as the younger population is a desired target in order to continue the legacy of our community.

History Day will host many activities. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Pennsylvania – The Augusta Regiment will be holding a military encampment that portrays 18<sup>th</sup> century military life. They will also display a model of Fort Augusta and explain it's importance in the French and

Indian War. Performers will portray local historic figures that were instrumental in the building of Northumberland.

John Deppen will give a presentation on Civil War participants at the Riverview Cemetery.

This will be a serious tour on our rich history of Civil War veterans from Northumberland.

*(Continued on page 3)*

# History Day

## Many Events Scheduled

At press time, the following events were scheduled for History Day; subject to change.

### Lifestyles of the Native Americans

David Ramsey, a Native American, will be offering a program on

American Indian life in the Northumberland-Point Township area during Northumberland's First Annual History Day. Focus will be directed towards common and little known facts of everyday living of women, men and

children. He will also be available for questions and further discussion in King Street Park throughout the day from 10:00 am until 3:00 pm.

*(Continued on page 2)*



Dana Ramsey will be demonstrating the art of open-hearth cooking in her circa 1820 home along Lodges (Johnson's) Run in Point Township.

*The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Pennsylvania Provincial Regiment, "The Augusta Regiment", was originally formed in 1756.*

**History Day**  
May 10, 2003  
King Street Park,  
Northumberland and  
other locations around  
the Borough

## Many Events Scheduled

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Open Hearth Cooking

Dana Ramsey will be demonstrating the art of open-hearth cooking in her circa 1820 home along Lodges (Johnson's) Run in Point Township. She will be preparing dishes from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries that would have been standard fare of the local people. Visitors will be able to sample the dishes she will be preparing such as homemade pies, sweet cakes, potato pie, corn chowder and more! Make plans to stop by and experience her talents.

### Poster Contest

A poster contest was held in honor of the First Annual History Day. Participants were third, fourth and fifth grade students from Priestley Elementary, Northumberland Christian Academy and Sunbury Christian Academy. Prizes, donated by The Friends of Joseph Priestley House, will be given to the first and second place students in each grade. Judging was done by

History Day Committee members and prizes will be awarded in the Gazebo at noon on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

### The Olden Days

Glenda Strouse will be displaying items that will show the changes in agriculture in our area for the First Annual History Day celebration. She will have a history of Point Township with period items, articles and maps. Glenda will be on hand all day in King Street Park for discussion and questions.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Pennsylvania, "The Augusta Regiment"

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion Pennsylvania Provincial Regiment, "The Augusta Regiment", was originally formed in 1756 to "build, garrison and defend" a fort at the forks of the Susquehanna River. This was Fort Augusta, the largest and longest-lived of all the Pennsylvania Provincial forts, existing until 1794 when it was finally dismantled. It served as a haven of safety for local inhabitants through two wars and the establishment

of the United States.

The re-created Augusta Regiment will be on hand in King Street Park for Northumberland's First Annual History Day. The Regiment will have an exhibit featuring a five-foot square model of Ft. Augusta, built during the Great Depression by WPA workers. Complete in every detail, this magnificent model was saved by the Regiment from probable obscurity when it was seen on eBay and purchased by the Captain.

In addition to the model, members of the Augusta Regiment will be on hand to present programs on 18<sup>th</sup> Century soldier life. Programs will include a history of Fort Augusta and The Augusta Regiment in the French and Indian War 1756-1763, Fort Augusta in the American Revolution and a fashion show of 18<sup>th</sup> Century military and civilian dress.

### Northumberland's Canal History

Do you know what a Bridge Stick is? What's the difference

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Northumberland History On Display

(Continued from page 1)

King Street Park will also host a Civil War era garden tea party from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. This will be a wonderful activity for mothers and daughters! The Fiddler Woman will be telling remarkable stories and playing "Songs of the River". Children will be telling their stories through games of times past and telling you what they've learned through their studies of local history.

A slideshow presentation on local canal history will be presented as well as history on the local railroad. Both of these forms of transportation were extremely important in the building of North-

umberland.

Open hearth cooking will be presented on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century cooking at the home of Dana Ramsey. Directions will be available so everyone can experience her gift of conveying what life was like in those times.

A local American Indian, Dave Ramsey, will present lifestyles of our original resident people. He will also be available for question and answer times throughout the day.

Northumberland is well known for its beautiful blooming azaleas. There will be an azalea garden tour available along with a historic walking tour that will highlight notable homes.

Northumberland will

celebrate its 231st anniversary this year. It was settled and laid out as a community in 1772. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs will be recognizing Northumberland at 11:45am in the gazebo for their 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary, as Northumberland became incorporated as a local government in April 1828.

There will be many other scheduled activities throughout the park. Many eras of history will be represented and everyone is welcome to come dressed in period clothing.

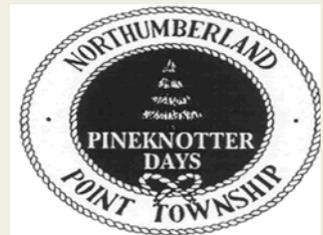
*Note:*

*In the event that it rains on May 10th, events will be moved into the Second Street Community Center building.*



The Fiddler Woman will be telling remarkable stories and playing "Songs of the River".

*Northumberland will celebrate its 231st anniversary this year. It was settled and laid out as a community in 1772.*



Pineknoller Day's 2003 will run from June 28th through July 4th.

## Pineknoller Day's '03 Dates set

Hard to believe, but the 31st annual Pineknoller Day's celebration is just a few weeks away. The 2003 edition begins June 28th and runs through July 4th, with most events happening in King Street Park. Nightly entertainment this year will feature

Re-Creation, the Mud Flaps, True Heart, McNeil Country and Shama-Lama.

In addition, plans continue for the Soapbox Derby and AYSO Soccer tournament.

Pineknoller Day's is sponsored by the

Northumberland-Point Township Kiwanis organization, with all proceeds benefiting activities within the two communities.

More information will be contained in the summer issue of *The Pineknoller News*.



The primary election is set for May 20th.

*The new walking tour brochure describes points of interest for numerous private homes, businesses and public facilities on the route.*

### **Walking Tour of Northumberland Brochure**

Available beginning May 10, 2003

Available at History Day, and thereafter at Northumberland County Historical Society, Joseph Priestley House, Northumberland County Tourism, Susquehanna Valley Visitor Bureau, Northumberland National Bank, local libraries and businesses.

## **Election 2003: Three Seats, Five Candidates**

Three incumbents and two former mayors are vying for three Borough Council seats in the May 20th primary. All are Republicans.

Charles "Bud" Ditton, Judith H. Groninger and Gregory S. Shaffer are all running for re-election to a new four-year Council term. Ditton and Shaffer have served on Council since 1998; Groninger, since 2000. These incumbents face Robert Stahl and Wendell Wetzel in the primary.

Stahl is a retired Council member, and mayor. Wetzel was elected Northumberland's mayor in 1998, and served through the end of 2001.

The top three Republican vote getters will have their name added to the fall ballot. With no announced Democrats on the ballot, these voters can nonetheless write-in any of the announced candidates. The top three vote-getters will have their name included on the

November 4 ballot.

Voting commences at 7 a.m. and ends at 8 p.m. on May 20th. Those registered voters in Ward 1 vote at the Borough Building, while Ward 2 voters go to the Girl Scout House. Those in Ward 3, vote at the Kiwanis Building.

Please refer specific questions on voting in the Borough to our office at 473-3414.

## **New Walking Tour Brochure Debuts**

A new brochure featuring a self-guided walking tour of Northumberland will make its debut at History Day on May 10, 2003. The brochure is a joint project of the Northumberland County Historical Society and the Friends of Joseph Priestley House. Local researchers from both groups compiled information about properties of historic and/or architectural significance predominantly within the Historic District of Northumberland. The district was mapped in the 1980's by Thomas R. Deans of Dean's

Associates, Milton, as part of the nomination process to place a portion of the borough on the National Register for Historic Places.

The brochure describes points of interest for numerous private homes, businesses and public facilities on the walking tour route. Photos of many of the properties are also shown.

Funding for the brochure was provided by the Degenstein Foundation, Northumberland National Bank and the Friends of Joseph Priestley House. The

brochure is free.

Stop by the Friends of Joseph Priestley House information table in King Street Park on History Day and pick up your copy!

After May 10, the brochure will be available at several regional locations including Northumberland County Historical Society, Joseph Priestley House, Northumberland County Tourism, Susquehanna Valley Visitor Bureau, Northumberland National Bank, local libraries and businesses.

## From the President of Borough Council

Some thoughts...

In these crazy times that we live, I am struck by the resolve and dedication of our country's troops in the field and at home. Whether it be in Iraq, Afghanistan, or elsewhere, today's service men and women exemplify what being an American is all about, and in many cases, what sacrifice is all about. Whether one is for or against the conflicts of our day, we should all be supporting the troops, and hoping for their quick return. And as such, we should keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

Henry Ford said: "History is more or less bunk. It's tradition. We don't want tradition. We want to live in the present and the only history that is worth a tinker's damn is the history we make today." While I agree with his basic premise, which boils down to: live for today, not yesterday, examining and learning from one's history isn't such a bad idea, especially in these times in which we live.

Through a lot of hard work and dedication, the Northumberland-Point Township Revitalization committee is about to welcome you to the 1st annual History Day celebration, on Saturday, May 10th.

As President of Borough Council, I'd like to invite all of you to attend this unique occasion.

As much as I'd like to attend the History Day events, I will be elsewhere. On that day my little bro Christopher will be marrying the love of his life, Erin. As Best Man for the groom, I wish them success, love and strength in their married life. May their future be filled with joy, happiness and everything else that they want together in life. Here's to you, Chris and Erin.

Until next time,  
Bryan



"Whether it be in Iraq, Afghanistan, or elsewhere, today's service men and women exemplify what being an American is all about, and in many cases, what sacrifice is all about."

Bryan M Wolfe,  
President, Borough Council

## Many Events Scheduled

*(Continued from page 2)*

between a packet boat and a snapper? Why was Northumberland considered one of the true canal boroughs? What did the canal have to do with the Bank of Northumberland?

Visit Michael McWilliams, Sr. on History Day to learn the answers to these ques-

tions and many more! Mike will have a slide show presentation in the basement of Christ United Methodist Church on the corner of Front and King Streets starting at 10:30am, 12:30pm and 2:30pm. The show includes post card pictures of the canals in this area as well as photos of our area's canal ruins. He will be more than happy to an-

swer any questions you may have on this very interesting aspect of Northumberland history.

### Civil War History at the Riverview Cemetery

Units such as the Irish Brigade, the Stonewall Brigade and the Iron Brigade became leg-

*(Continued on page 7)*



Northumberland was a canal borough.



**New Web site**  
Liberty Splashland  
now has its own  
web site.

Go to  
<http://libertysplashland.com>

*At Liberty Splashland we are offering you a way to get wet, get some sun, relax and maybe get some exercise.*

### **Liberty Splashland**

June 4– August 24,  
2003

Open Daily  
(weather permitting)\*

#### **Daily Rates:**

General Admission, \$3  
Senior Citizen, \$2  
Under 5, Free

\*check website or pool  
office for daily hours

## Advertising; in print edition

### **Liberty Splashland Opens for Season June 4th**

Need a vacation from the cold? The place to go for “fun in the sun” is right at your back door. Besides the cold, harsh winter, times are tough for everyone. That doesn’t mean you don’t deserve to pamper yourself, now that sounds good. How about inexpensive? Let’s face it, few people are spending “big bucks” for extravagant vacations right now. Take a moment to think of your options. Would it make sense to choose an entertaining and relaxing vacation that saves you major money? How about having the opportunity to experience this 7 days a week? You

might spend \$150-\$250 round trip for 1 person to fly to Orlando. Ordinarily that’s cheap, but maybe not this year. If your whole family could have fun for \$150 for 80-plus days of fun, would that entice you? A sure bet for a relaxing and inexpensive opportunity exists for you and your family and it is within 1 mile of your home. Liberty Splashland has plenty to offer your family and save you money. At Liberty Splashland we are offering you a way to get wet, get some sun, relax and maybe get some exercise. Season passes are available for individuals and fami-

lies. If a family of 4 purchased a season pass and came to Liberty Splashland twenty times over the summer, it would cost a \$1.87 per visit. Now this is no Disneyland but it’s not \$52.00 a visit either. You deserve to have fun playing volleyball, swim in the pool, relax on a chaise lounge, lay on a pool tube, be squirted with a squirt gun, watch as your kids scream with excitement as the Dump Tower unleashes its contents upon them and say to yourself, “I remember the fun we had at the pool in 2003.” We have plenty of fun stuff this year planned including  
*(Continued on page 10)*

## Many Events Scheduled

*(Continued from page 5)*

can Civil War. Captain James Taggart and The Taggart Guards of Northumberland did not achieve great fame in the war, but their service and their sacrifices deserve to be remembered. They fought on some of the bloodiest battlefields of the Civil War, and when they came home to Northumberland, the veterans became a vital part of the community.

Civil War historian John Deppen will discuss the history of The Taggart Guards, later known as Company B of the 5<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Reserves from the

Riverview Cemetery on Seventh Street during the History Day celebration. He will highlight the stories of other Civil War soldiers from Northumberland who traveled far from home and saw unspeakable carnage in the great struggle to preserve the Union at 10:30 am, 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm.

### **Fiddler of Tunes and Purveyor of Tales**

Back in the old days, the itinerant fiddler brought much of the music and entertainment to an area. Traveling in a circuit, the fiddler would show up at a house ready to move in for a spell. The neighbors were

told, the barn floor was swept, and the dancing shoes were polished.

Beverly Conrad is a folk fiddler in the truest sense. Armed and eared with hundreds of familiar tunes, she winds her way through crowds fiddling one tune after another. There's nothing like a good story and so much the better if it has a song to go with it. Since moving to Pennsylvania in 1987, Bev, also known as the Fiddler Woman, has made a point of finding out all she can about the songs and legends of the Keystone State. Her lively presentation,

*(Continued on page 9)*



### **Volunteers Needed**

The Recreation Commission is in need of volunteers. Please contact the Borough office for more information.

*"They fought on some of the bloodiest battlefields of the Civil War, and when they came home...the veterans become a vital part of the community"*  
 - Commentary about John Deppen's presentation

### **King Street Park Rentals**

The Borough is currently taking reservations for King Street Park rentals. The park is a great place, for example, to hold your outdoor wedding or other function. With King Street Park refurbishing near complete, this is a great time to utilize this location. Contact the Borough office for more information.

Advertising; in print edition

Advertising; in print edition

## Many Events Scheduled

(Continued from page 7)

Songs of the Susquehanna, includes many surprises and little known facts about popular tunes that have roots along the river. Please join the Fiddler Woman at 11:00 am and 1:00pm in the Gazebo during our First Annual History Day. You are promised to be pleasantly entertained!

### Meet Me in the Gazebo!

There will be many activities in and around the Gazebo on History Day!

At 10:00 am, the Episcopal Church will ring in the festivities with their church bell. Historically, this bell was rung to signal the boats arriving via the canal.

Also at 10:00am, the Sunbury Historic Troupe who are members of the Northumberland County Historical Society, will be portraying Northumberland's historical citizens May Burr, Conrad Weiser and a canal boat captain. They will also present "The Story of

the Great Run Away". The Players will also be presenting more stories at 2:30pm in the gazebo. Hermit on Blue Hill and The Story of Hotel Shikellamy just to name a few.

Local students dressed in period costumes will reenact children's games in the gazebo and they will be enjoying their day in the park as well. Watch for our very own town crier! Don't forget to stop by and visit the Fiddler Lady and The Augusta Regiment at the gazebo, too.

At noon, there will be a special presentation to the Borough of Northumberland by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs for our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a registered borough. Prizes will also be awarded for the poster contest. Stick around for our "special" surprise feature in the gazebo after these presentations!

There will be homemade vegetable soup, homemade ice cream (the old fashioned way!) and a bakery shop of sweet cakes and goodies. Don't forget to join us for a Civil

War Era Tea Party. While the girls are enjoying the tea party, the guys can visit the Priestley-Forsyth Library to watch old films of Northumberland Football!

Take your sweetheart for a horse and carriage ride around town or mill around with the historic walking tour. Don't forget to stop by 266 King Street to take in the beautiful azalea garden of Eugene and Gretchen Brosius.

There will be special memorial items on sale. Each year, History Day will feature it's own piece of pottery. There will also be scented beeswax coated pinecones on sale to remind you of Northumberland!

If Mother Nature decides to rain that day, all festivities will move to the Second Street School. We are planning a great day for all to enjoy! Please come out and join us.



John Deppen will discuss the history of The Taggart Guards, later known as Company B of the 5th Pennsylvania Reserves.

*"There's nothing like a good story and so much the better if it has a song to go with it."*  
- Commentary about *The Fiddler Woman*,  
Beverly Conrad

### Our Next Issue: Summer 2003

The next issue of *The Pineknotted News* will be published to coincide with Pineknotted Day's.

Look for this issue at the end of June in Borough mailboxes and available each day of Pineknotted Day's in King Street Park.



All meetings are in the Borough Office, unless otherwise noted. We welcome all visitors and residents to these meetings.

*For a complete listing of all scheduled borough meetings, please visit our web site or contact the borough office. All public meetings are advertised in a timely manner in The Daily Item.*

### Rentals Available

The Borough is currently taking reservations for the pavilion rentals at Pineknotted Park and Liberty Hollow. Contact the Borough office for more information. Note: space is limited, so get your reservations in today.

## Liberty Splashland Opens for Season June 4th

*(Continued from page 6)*

the “Big Squirt” squirt-gun system and another 60 lounge chairs. And we’re working on a slide for

the deep well for this summer and plenty of parties. Try Karaoke, Lip Sync, Adult night, Family night, and Liberty Fear Factor. Go ahead, save some money while having a

great summer right here in your own back yard. Visit [www.LibertySplashland.com](http://www.LibertySplashland.com) for more information.

## Upcoming Borough Council Meetings

### May 2003

6—Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. (Tuesday night)

19—Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. (Monday night)

### June 2003

3—Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. (Tuesday night)

17—Regular Meeting, 7 p.m. (Tuesday night)

### BOROUGH OFFICES CLOSED

The borough building will be closed on Monday, May 26th for the Memorial Day holiday.

Advertising; in print edition

## The Health Report by Lee Shaffer, Health Officer

### West Nile and Mosquitoes

Spring is here and warm weather is on the way. With warm weather come the bugs and disease-toting mosquitoes. We can help reduce the number of mosquitoes in residential areas by draining or eliminating mosquito breeding sites. Mosquitoes only breed in still or stagnant water. You should eliminate any objects on your property that might contain small pools of standing water. (Don't forget clogged rain gutters!) Avoid or limit outdoor activities at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most likely to feed. Consider applying insect repellent when you need to be outdoors.

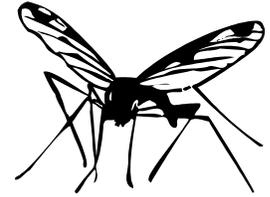
### A Safer Hamburg for your Cookout

Area grocery stores now have available irradiated ground beef, which we consider a major step forward in preventing food-borne illness. Irradiation does not alter the flavor, or glow in the dark or daylight, or contain

any traces of radioactivity. Sure Beam, the company providing the service, employs a process using ordinary electricity to help eliminate the threat of harmful food-borne pathogens such as E. Coli, Salmonella, and Listeria, in a wide range of foods from ground meat to poultry and produce, whether fresh or frozen.

Irradiation of food is not new. The first patents for food preservation based on irradiation were issued in 1905. Astronauts carried sandwiches made with irradiated ham, cheese, and bread aboard NASA's Apollo 17 in 1972. More than 40 years of research have determined the effectiveness and safety of irradiation of food and other products. By 1997, more than 75 million pounds of spices, herbs, dehydrated vegetable products, and seasoning blends were irradiated in North America. The irradiation process is also used in disposable medical devices, consumer products such as

baby bottle nipples, cotton balls, bandages, and cosmetic raw material. The FDA approved the process in 1997; while the USDA's approval to reduce or eliminate food-borne pathogens in fresh and frozen red meat took effect in 2000. Currently, over 40 countries enjoy commercial irradiated foods. For those who enjoy a rare or medium-rare burger, it is deemed to be safe when using electronically pasteurized food. A word of caution – electronically pasteurized products must be handled as you should handle any other perishable food item. Just as pasteurized milk must be handled and stored appropriately, electronic pasteurization helps to assure that safe foods are available in our supermarket. The consumers must also do their part to keep foods safe at home. For more information, visit [www.surebeamsafe.com](http://www.surebeamsafe.com) or [www.foodsafetycouncil.com](http://www.foodsafetycouncil.com).



Avoid or limit outdoor activities at dawn and dusk, when mosquitoes are most likely to feed.

*Irradiation of food is not new. The first patents for food preservation based on irradiation were issued in 1905.*

A bit of trivia...

In 1600, the German order of Temperance, *an anti-drinking group*, mandated that its members drink not more than seven glasses of alcoholic beverages at one sitting. They further admonished that there should be not more than two such sessions a day! Wow! Times change!

Lee Shaffer,  
Health Officer

*www.libertysplashland.com*  
*Events Schedule*  
**Liberty Splashland 2003**

<p><b>July (continued)</b>          19 – Liberty Fear Factor Day (rain date: July 20)          25 – Adult Party Night  <b>August</b>          7 – Splash Bash Night (rain date: August 8)          16 – Liberty Fear Factor Day          21 – Lip Sync Contest          24 – Final Day of Season</p> <p><i>Note: Due to school being opened through June 9, the hours for June 4-9 will be limited; check Borough office for more information.</i></p>	<p><b>June</b>          4 – First Day of Season          8 – Mother’s Day – Moms get in free          12 – Splash Bash Night (rain date: June 13)          22 – Father’s Day – Dads get in free          26 – Lip Sync Contest (rain date: June 27)</p> <p><b>July</b>          10 – Karaoke Night          (rain date: July 11)          11 – Family Night          (rain date: July 12)</p>
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<http://www.northumberlandborough.com>

Borough of Northumberland  
 221 2nd Street  
 Northumberland, PA 17857

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