

BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND, PENNSYLVANIA

# THE PINEKNOTTER NEWS

SPRING 2005

MAY—JUNE 2005

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## THIRD ANNUAL HISTORY DAY SET

The Northumberland/Point Township Revitalization Committee and its History Day Committee have a wonderful History Day planned this year on May 14th from 10 am to 3 pm. There will be 3 sites to explore.

In King Street Park the activities will include the following displays and demonstrations: tinsmith, blacksmith, spinning wheel and carding, potter, local farming history, Furman Foods, Pt. Township Garden Club, Postcards, Story teller, Fire Co. No. 1, and the Friends of Joseph Priestley will be available to hand out information. The Priestley -Forsyth Library will have train movies and a history quiz. They will also have Northumberland miniatures to sell. A Federal style home at 170 King Street will be open for tours. If you are hungry you can enjoy the homemade ice cream at a '50's ice cream par-

lor display or the homemade soup with a bison sandwich. Stop by the Victorian tea party and the bake sale while you listen to the strolling musicians. The children will enjoy the free stage coach rides. The C.W. Rice History Club will provide colonial games and a portrait board while Junior Girl Scout Troop #2548 will provide a demonstration of old-time folk games. These will be available free for children to take home. Stop by the Revitalization Committee's stand where you can purchase pottery, matchbox tins, pinecones, mugs, and other memorabilia or a print of the Front Street Train Station by Jeff Lynch.

You can take the shuttle bus to tour special historical places throughout the town including the "Pat Lyon" at the No. 1 Fire Co. (the oldest existing fire apparatus in the United States) and on to the second site at the Riverview Cemetery

where our past soldiers will be honored.

The shuttle will then take you out Rt. 11 to the Lodge Run Mill House. There you can view displays of Native Americans and presentations by both the Pennsylvania Fort Augusta Regiment and the Pennsylvania Canal History Society with a canal boat display by the Muncy Historical Society and a presentation of local canal history by Captain Mick. At the Lodge Run House you will want to purchase some of the food at the open-hearth food demonstration and visit the tavern for an historical tour.

Mark your calendars now so you won't miss the fun. In case of inclement weather, the park activities will be moved inside the Second Street School gym. If you would like to volunteer or contribute in any way to this event please call the borough office at 473-3414.

## SERVING YOUR BOROUGHS

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Darvin Straub*

*Nate Fisher,  
Street Supervisor*

*Tim Fink,  
Police Chief*

*Brian Crebs,  
Fire Chief*

*Paul J. Ruane,  
Code Enforcement  
Officer*

*Lee Shaffer,  
Health Officer*

## **Borough Office**

*Phone: 473-3414  
Fax: 473-3986*

### 33rd Annual Pineknotter Days Tentative Schedule

**Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>**  
SOAPBOX RACE 8am  
LIBERTY FEAR  
FACTOR 4pm

**Sunday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>**  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH  
SERVICE 7pm

#### Monday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Pineknotter Store &  
Concessions 10am -  
10pm  
CRAFT SHOW 9am -  
3pm  
BALLOON ANIMAL  
ARTIST 10am - 2pm  
CHICKEN BBQ 11am  
SHAMA-LAMA

#### Tuesday, July 5<sup>th</sup>

Pineknotter Store &  
Concessions 6pm -  
10pm  
Pineknotter GOOD  
CITIZENSHIP Award  
Pineknotter of the Year  
Award 8pm  
RE-CREATION

#### Wednesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>

Pineknotter Store &  
Concessions 6pm -  
10pm  
TRUE HEART

(Continued on page 4)

## IT'S SPRING CLEANUP TIME IN THE BOROUGH!



It's spring cleaning  
time! Start cleaning out

your closets,  
basements,  
and attics to  
make some  
extra cash.  
The Second  
Street Advisory Committee is planning  
another community yard  
sale for June 4.

Space is available for  
\$5.00 for a ten foot

space, or \$10.00 for a  
ten foot space and a table! Stop by the school  
for some great deals,  
yummy food, and you  
can even try your luck at  
the Chinese Auction. If  
you can't make the sale,  
feel free to drop off your  
treasures as a donation  
at the school on June 2  
& 3 from 6-8 pm. Call  
Noelle at 473-7563 to  
reserve your spot today!

## LIBERTY SPLASHLAND SET FOR 2005 OPENING

Summer is right around the corner and Liberty Splashland has an exciting season in store for you and your family. New for 2005 is the 1,500 square foot spray-ground that is sure to be a hit for all ages! You and your kids will get wet under the water that is shooting out everywhere.

Special activities planned for the 2005 Season are Pool Parties, Lip Sync Contests, new Dance Contests, a Hot Dog Eating Contest, our version of Fear Factor (once again), a Hawaiian Luau, a 50's Day and Motorcycle Show, a Chicken Barbeque, Karaoke, Sand Castle Building, Water Olym-

pics, Game Days and a Disco Night. Something is planned each week for your entertainment. At all of our Thursday night events, such as pool parties, lip sync contest and dance contests, parents' admissions will be free with a kid's admission. A Volley Ball Competition is being planned for 4-man teams at a cost of \$25.00 per team which includes admission to the park. A Horseshoe Competition will be held for 2-man teams at a cost of \$5.00 per person, including admission to the park.

Season passes, always your best option, are available NOW at the Borough Office and at the pool after opening

day. The price for a family pass is just \$150 and a single pass is \$75. The facilities at the park include the main pool with a shallow end, lap lanes, and a deep well with a 1-meter diving board and the double drop slides. The Dump Tower is always a hit with its shower of 40 gallons of water slamming down on you. For those of you who aren't as adventurous, we have pool tubes to float on the water and 100 chairs and lounges for your relaxation pleasure and to soak up the sun at poolside. For the energetic folks, the sand volleyball court provides exercise and good fun. Don't forget

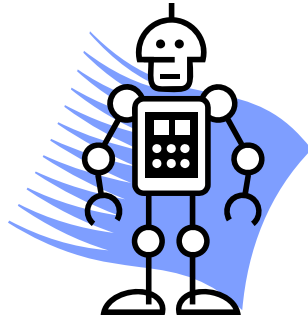
(Continued on page 11)

## FREE ROBOTICS CLASSES BEING OFFERED

Northumberland Christian School is offering a free robotics course this summer for borough residents who will be in 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade next year. The course will be held at NCS, located on Second and Queen Streets, the week of June 20th to 24th from 10:00 - 11:30 AM. The course is designed to get students interested in technology by exposing them to the fun of Robotics and uses the Lego Mindstorms, and will be taught by the school's Director of Information Systems, Jonathan Rees, who holds a bachelor's degree in electrical engi-

neering and a master's degree in computer engineering.

The Mindstorms were born out of research from MIT and have been



used for education all the way through the college level. NCS utilizes them for some projects in its high school programming classes be-

cause of their ability to be programmed in a language similar to C. However, Lego has graphical-based software that allows students with no programming experience to be able to design and build robots as well. While students who have used the Mindstorms may attend, the course will be geared to those who have no experience.

Space is limited, so interested parents should sign up on the web at [www.norrychristian.net/Robotics](http://www.norrychristian.net/Robotics) or may call the school office at 473-9786.

## Health Officer's Report

Help stop the spread of the West Nile Virus! This can be done by eliminating all mosquito-breeding places. Do not let stagnant water sit in unused pools, tires, cans, rain gutters, or yard ponds.

Remember to WASH YOUR HANDS! When handling food. Proper hand washing should last 20 seconds – sing Happy Birthday! Use hot water and soap, rinse and use a disposable paper towel.

Businesses are required to train certified food handlers on their staff. Now non-profits can benefit from a modified (free) food handler course. Call the Borough Office at 473-3414 if your non-profit group is interested and I will arrange for another class. One classic violation is food handlers handling ready-to-eat food with their bare hands.

A reminder for summer picnics: Keep hot foods hot, above 135°, and cold foods cold, below 41°. Foods sitting out for more than 2 hours should be discarded.

Stay Healthy – Wash your hands!

Lee Shaffer, Health Officer

(Continued from page 2)

**33rd Annual  
Pineknotted Days  
Tentative Schedule**

**Thursday, July 7<sup>th</sup>**

Pineknotted Store &  
Concessions 6pm -

10pm

CAR SHOW 6pm - 9pm

*MUD FLAPS*

**Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup>**

Pineknotted Store &  
Concessions 6pm -

10pm

*MCNETT COUNTRY*

*BAND*

**PINEKNOTTER DAYS**

Sponsored by the Ki-  
wanis Club of  
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Township

Proceeds Benefit  
Community Service  
Projects

*All times are subject to  
change*



**SHIKELLAMY LITTLE LEAGUE GEARING UP FOR NEW YEAR**

The local Little League Volunteers have spent countless hours during the off-season preparing for this season's upcoming events.

Currently the League consists of 113 T-Ball players, up from last year's 87; 46 minor players, up from last year's 36; 46 major players, up from last year's 44; 50 Jr. League players, up from last year's 49; 30 Sr. League players, down from last

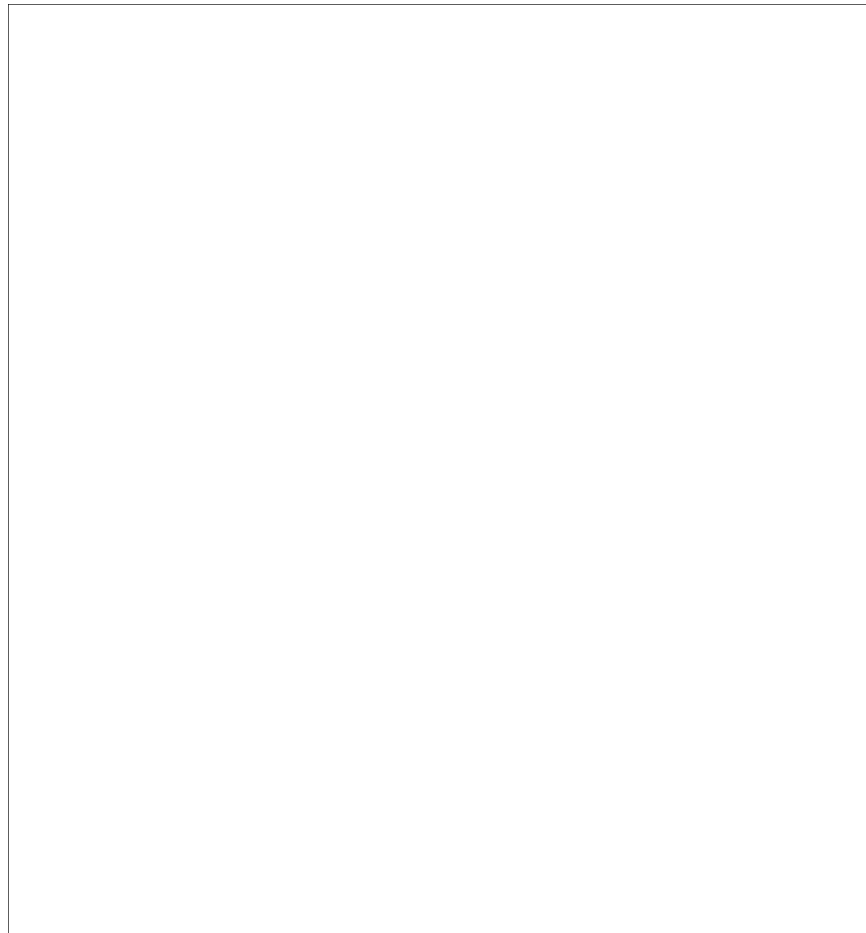
year's 39; 26 Minor/Major Softball players, up from last year's 25; and 14 Jr./Sr. Softball players, down from last year's 25. Overall increased participation in the program over the past four years of encompassing the local school district is up 22.31%, a great trend towards the future preservation of this community's local little league program.

Games are planned to

begin on April 25, 2005, contingent upon field and concession stand readiness, due to the recent high water that flooded the Northumberland Acorn Park and concession stand.

As continuing with the league's annual tradition, we will be holding our annual chicken BBQ, parade, crowning of the Little League Queen for 2005 and

*(Continued on page 7)*



## FROM THE NORTHUMBERLAND FIRE CHIEF

You may have heard or read about the Borough forming an emergency services task force. This organization was assembled at the request of the two fire companies and the council, citing problems with the fireboard and the department as a whole. The emergency services task force is comprised of a representative and alternate from both the fire companies, a representative from the council and 4 citizens-at-large who have no association to either fire company. I also participate in a resource capacity only. It's important to note that the majority of the voting body of the task force is made up of residents, the fire department's "customers".

This group receives some guidance from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The DCED has assisted many task forces throughout the Commonwealth with mergers, consolidations, and improvements to various VOLUNTEER fire departments' abilities to serve their customers.

The task force has had several successful meetings and is looking at

how the two fire companies currently provide service to the borough and how improvements can be made. Key concerns and issues are recruitment & retention, funding, equipment purchasing, long range planning, and reorganization of the fire department's management structure. The task force will also be making decisions about dissolving the fireboard, or augmenting it in some way. No permanent decisions have been made yet.



The task force has commissioned the DCED to do a study of the fire department, which will take several months. This study will compare the Northumberland FD to best practices in fire departments serving similar communities across Pennsylvania and the U.S. This way the group has a benchmark to work from to develop

a strategy for the fire department to provide the best possible service in the most economical manner possible.

Public involvement and support is important to our process. The task force meets the last Monday of every month at 7pm in the Borough chambers. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. After all, borough residents are our Customers and every decision the emergency services task force makes will directly impact the safety of you, your family, and your neighbors.

Additionally, the task force has a section of the Borough's website. The names and associations of the task force members are listed, as well as several important links. These links are to various documents where you can learn about VOLUNTEER fire departments in PA and the struggles they face. Other documents include Meeting minutes and information items.

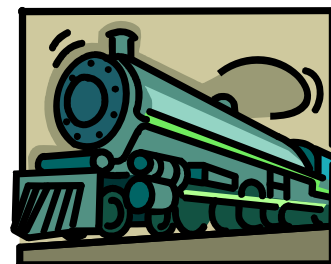
Thank you!

Brian Crebs

Fire Chief

## Pineknotter Days Collectible Train Car

Pineknotter Days will feature its second collector train car this year. This year's car sponsored by the Northumberland National Bank celebrates 101 years of service to the community. The two tone wood side box car is the first in a series the Pineknotter Days committee hopes will be based on the businesses of Northumberland – Point Township. By sharing the cost of production of the car each business is provided with a unique avenue of advertising and sharing who we (Pineknotters) really are. In a few years the collectors will be able to display a Pineknotter train made up of cars celebrating the businesses of our community. Weaver Trains will be manufacturing 100 numbered cars for this year's Pineknotter Days Celebration July 2 – 8.



## TREE SPRAYING SET

The Borough of Northumberland, with the assistance of Penn State University is in the process of spraying the downtown trees to rid them of fruit. A number of citizens and visitors to the Borough alike have complained about the sticky fruit that have fallen from these trees.

This spraying—which is to be done during the peak blooming period should rectify the ‘sticky’ situation. Hereafter, the trees will be trimmed, which will also help.



The Northumberland Tree Commission is heading this project.

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## LITTLE LEAGUE SET FOR '05

(Continued from page 4)

opening day celebration on Monday, May 30, 2005 (Memorial Day).

The league has been awarded the 9 & 10 Year Old Pennsylvania State Champion Softball Tournament to be held at the Northumberland Acorn Park from August 5 – 11, 2005. This event will bring players, parents, and Little League Officials from around the state to the Borough of Northumberland to see first hand all the hard work and devotion every volunteer throughout this community puts forth to make it a truly worthwhile community to live in. Anyone interested in volunteering with this event or any event to support this program may contact either Tim Fister – League President at 473-

8673 or Bryan Luden – League Vice President at 473-3241.

The lighting project that was completed in mid 2003 has made this community and the league stand out from others giving the children more opportunities to have longer seasonal and post seasonal game play and the potential future tournament opportunities. We continue to sell Pennants to defray costs associated with this endeavor. If a local business would like more information on an innovative type of advertisement please contact any league board member.

Note: This article was provided by the Shikellamy Acorn Little League

## AIRPORT AUTHORITY VACANCY

The Borough is looking for a volunteer to serve on the Penn Valley Airport Authority. Interested candidates should live in the Borough, and be willing to attend monthly meetings at the

Authority. If you are interested, please contact the Borough office at 473-3414.

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- Do you ask others to repeat themselves?

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## KING STREET SIDEWALK REPLACEMENTS



This year the sidewalk project in King Street Park will be completed. Sidewalks were installed in the eastern side of the park in 2003. Money has been budgeted to install new sidewalks this year from the gazebo to Second Street. The new sidewalks and the Memorial Garden have greatly enhanced the park's attractiveness.

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# IMAGINED







## National Day of Prayer is May 5, 2005 at 12 noon.

This year's theme is "God Shed His Grace on Thee". The Northumberland Ministerium will be leading prayer for this annual event in front of the Northumberland Borough Building at 12 noon.

## STREET WORK ANNOUNCED

The following streets in the Borough will be paved this year: Orange Street from Fifth Street to Front Street; Depot Street from Duke Street to the Front Street Station; Wheatley Avenue from Depot Avenue to Front Street; and Rope-walk avenue from King Street to Sheetz Avenue.

The following storm drain pipes will be replaced: Fifth Street from Prince Street to Strawbridge Road; and Third Street from Or-

ange Street to Queen Street.

The intersection at Strawbridge Road and



Jefferson Street will be rebuilt. Three new storm drain inlet boxes and two pipes will be installed and the inter-

section repaved.

A new storm drain inlet box and storm drain piping and some street repair will be done at the upper end of Fifth Street, from the intersection at Elliott Drive.

The cost for the street construction work for this year is approximately \$130,000. A portion of this funding comes from the five-mill street tax, with the remaining funds coming from Liquid Fuels.

## McPherson's Farm Market

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## LIBERTY SPLASHLAND READY FOR SEASON

(Continued from page 2)

to sample our tasty, reasonably-priced food, including cheese sticks, pierogies, pizza, sodas and slushies, nachos, and the all-new, deep-fried hot dogs, available only at Liberty Splashland!

Birthdays are fun at the park. We offer several options. You may hold a party during normal business hours, or rent the entire park for a private party. Two-hour parties start at just

\$75.00 and you may choose which features you want for your group. Last summer, we experienced tremendous growth in the number of parties being held at the pool. So this year we are making more time available for your party needs. New this year, we are offering availability for parties in the mornings, starting at 9 AM. There is plenty of sun in our "hollow" during the morning hours, so plan a party during this time of day!

Group rates are available for groups of 20 or more. Liberty Splashland is also a great place for the small business to hold company picnics. We are capable of hosting 300 or more people. Please come to the park or stop by the Borough Office and pick up an information sheet so you can plan your event.

Get out the suntan lotion, shades and towels, and we'll see you at Liberty Splashland!

## From the Fire Police...

The Northumberland Special Fire Police would like to thank the many residents and businesses who donated to our building fund. Donations are still being accepted at the Borough Office, 221 2nd Street, Northumberland.

Thanks again.

Captain Herbert W. Gottshall, Jr.

## LIBERTY RECYCLING GRANTED CHANGES

The PA DEP approved a grant request from the Borough on behalf of the volunteers who operate our Liberty Recycling Center. The request for app. \$85,000 is to replace the diesel powered Bob Cat used to move bulk amounts of recyclables and to purchase a horizontal baler to provide the opportunity to bale the newsprint collected and to bale # 1 and # 2 plastics in the future. The Borough is providing 10% of the grant amount for the purchase of this equipment.

The plan presented to DEP is to replace the Bob Cat with a propane powered fork lift equipped with a special set of forks which will allow for turning bales of recycled materials 360 degrees if necessary to store or load on a trailer for shipment.

Presently the volunteers receive no money for the newsprint recycled because the baler used will not bale newsprint. Once the new baler is in use the Liberty Recycling Center will be able to market the baled newsprint for additional income. Another

plan by the volunteers is to add # 1 and # 2 plastic bottles, jars and containers to the list of recyclables accepted.

Recycling at the **Liberty Recycling Center** is good for the community in several ways. The volunteer groups who man the center on **Saturdays 7:00 am – 11:00 am** and **Wednesdays 5:30 pm – 8:00 pm** use the money earned for projects within our community. Secondly the borough receives a yearly bonus from DEP based on the amount recycled (just over \$5000 for

2003) and reducing the volume of materials trashed saves on our individual trash bills and prolongs the life of our limited land fills which is smart for all of us. **Remember your 3 R's. Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle** whenever possible.

If you belong to a group who is looking for a way to earn extra cash and have people willing to work one Saturday morning and one Wednesday evening a month please stop in or give us a call and a volunteer will explain how the system works.

Borough of  
Northumberland

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Northumberland, PA 17857

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*The Pineknotter News* is a quarterly publication of the Borough of Northumberland. It is printed by Paper Flow Unlimited in Bloomsburg. The newsletter can be provided in alternate format upon request. Advertising space is available for purchase on a quarterly or yearly basis. Call the Borough office at 473-3414 for more information.

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## IMPORTANT DATES—MAY—JUNE 2005

The following meetings and events are scheduled in the Borough for May-June of this year. An up-to-date list of activities is available on our website or in the Borough office.

May 3—Borough Council, Regular Session, 7 p.m.

May 5—National Day of Prayer

May 14 — Third Annual History Day celebration

May 16—Borough Council, Work Session, 7 p.m.

May 17—Municipal Election

May 30—Memorial Day Holiday

June 3—Pool Opens

June 7—Borough Council, Regular Session, 7 p.m.

June 21—Borough council, Work Session, 7 p.m.

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Liberty Splashland Schedule—June 2005

June 3—Pool Opens, Free Admission

June 9—Pool Party, 6:30—9 p.m.

June 12—Kids Game Day, 2-4 p.m.

June 16—Dance Contest, 6:30-9 p.m.

June 19—Kids Game Day, 2-4 p.m.

June 23—Lip Sync Contest, 6:30-9 p.m.

June 26—Kids Game Day, 2-4 p.m.

June 30—Pool Party, 6:30-9 p.m.

### Next time in

*The Pineknotter News*

The Borough gets ready for Pineknotter Days, which will be held from July 2-9. Our summer issue will be published at the end of June. The deadline for submitting articles and ads is Friday, May 27, 2005.