

BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND, PENNSYLVANIA

THE PINEKNOTTER NEWS

WINTER 2006

FEBRUARY—APRIL 2006

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MAYOR'S MESSAGE FOR HER NEW TERM

Note: In November, Mayor Gretchen Brosius was elected to a second four-year term as Northumberland's mayor.

Dear Citizens of Northumberland,

I start a new term as your mayor with a grateful heart. This adventure started four years ago with prayer for needed volunteers. The Lord has been good. He has sent wonderful volunteers of which you may be one. So I thank you and Him.

I still am in need of your help. A small town like ours cannot function well

without volunteers.

There are some new programs started and some old programs needing completion so I ask you to come and serve on one of the following committees:

~ Northumberland Pt./Township Revitalization Committee or one of its subcommittees (Main Street, History Days, Lemonade Day, Fall Festival, Santa in the Park)
~ Second Street Committee
~ Recreation Committee or one of its subcommittees (Liberty Pool,

Pineknotted Park, Playground)

To the citizens who have volunteered their time in any of the above-mentioned activities, I say thank you. To those of you who are serving on the Emergency Services Board, Zoning Board, Planning Commission, Civil Service Commission, Appeals Board, Shade Tree Commission, Halloween Parade Committee, Northumberland Pt./Township Kiwanis, Pineknotted Days Committee, the veteran

(Continued on page 14)

IT'S A NEW YEAR: DO YOU BELIEVE IN MAGIC?

Abracadabra -----
another new year is upon us. What will you be doing in Northumberland this year?

Perhaps you will be attending one of our "Special" days--such as History Day, Lemonade day, Pineknotted Days, or the Fall Festival. Maybe

you will be watching one of the parades, attending a chicken bar-b-que or pancake breakfast, listening to a band concert in the park, or sitting on Santa's knee. Or, lounging by the pool at Liberty Splashland, eating a hot-dog while watching your favorite youngster play baseball or soccer, or

sitting on a bench in the park and enjoying the sound of a waterfall.

These activities and many others are available to all of us. BUT---do you realize that none of this is the result of MAGIC? It is the result of the work of dedicated

(Continued on page 3)

SERVING YOUR BOROUGH

Gretchen H. Brosius,
Mayor

Borough Council

Bryan M. Wolfe,
President

Charles "Bud" Ditton,
Vice President

Darvin Straub,
Chairman Pro Tem

Judith H. Groninger
Noelle Long
Jonathan Rees
Frank Wetzel

Tom Slodysko,
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

New Council Term Begins

On January 3, 2006, the Borough of Northumberland's Council began a new term. Remaining as president and vice president, respectively are Bryan M. Wolfe and Charles "Bud" Ditton. Elected for the first time as Chairman Pro Tem was Darvin Straub.

Council Committees for the 2006/07 term are as follows:

Finance

Bryan M. Wolfe, Chair
Charles "Bud" Ditton
Jonathan Rees

Personnel

Judith H. Groninger, Chair
Charles "Bud" Ditton
Bryan M. Wolfe

Property

Jonathan Rees, Chair
Frank Wetzel
Noelle Long

Public Safety

Charles "Bud" Ditton, Chair
Darvin Straub
Frank Wetzel

Recreation

Noelle Long, Chair
Darvin Straub
Bryan M. Wolfe

Streets

Darvin Straub, Chair
Judith H. Groninger
Jonathan Rees

WETZEL JOINS COUNCIL

Republican Frank Wetzel was elected to Borough Council in November.

Wetzel—the son of former Mayor Wendell Wetzel will serve the Council on both the public safety and property committees, as well as serve as Council's representative on both the planning commission and sewer authority.

As a life-long member of the Northumberland community, Wetzel has volunteered in the past. In 1986, he volunteered at the former Northumberland Rescue Squad. Recently, Wetzel served as chairman of the Emergency Services Task Force. Wetzel is looking forward to serving his community and serving with the other members on Council.

Borough Council meets each 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.

As always, Council meetings are open to the public.

If you have any questions, contact the Borough offices at 473-3414.

Borough Committee Meeting Dates 2006

The following committees meet on a regular monthly basis, unless otherwise announced:

Finance—Third Wednesdays of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Recreation—Fourth Wednesday of each month, 6 p.m.

Streets—Second Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m.

Public Safety—Fourth Tuesday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Property—Fourth Tuesday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

GIFT IDEA SPECIALS

A

Home Use Folding Incline Mat\$155
 12" h x 30" w x 72" l. Inclines from 12" down to 1". Choice of red/lt grey or blue/lt grey vinyl fabric

B

Home Use Folding Mats\$145 (8')
 (12' Long Folding Mat Shown)\$209 (12')
 Home Use Folding Mats are available in two lengths. 8' l or 12' l x 4' w x 1 3/8" h. Made with crosslink foam core. Choice of red or blue vinyl fabric

C

Folding Practice Beam\$99
 2" h x 9' l x 4" top. Covered in synthetic suede - the same as used on regulation beams.

D

Infinity Low Beam.....\$155
 Constructed and styled like regulation beams. Easily increase length by connecting additional beams. Beam rests on 2 - 7" wide base plates. 6" h x 4' l x 4" top.

E

NEW! 54" Parallett Bar.....\$99
 54" long bar sits securely 4 1/2" off floor. Reinforced PVC bar "flexes" like competitive equipment. 350 lb. weight capacity. No assembly required. **FREE** wall mount brackets permit use as a pull-up or ballet bar.

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Pool Passes Now Available

It may be the middle of winter, but start planning your free time this summer and purchase a season pass to Liberty Splashland. We are offering a 10% discount to those who purchase their passes before May 1st. A family pass will cost \$135 instead of \$150, and an individual pass will cost \$67.50 instead of \$75.00. Passes may be purchased at the Borough Office.

Last year, a new Spray-ground was installed at the pool. This kid-friendly area consists of underground piping that sprays water from various spouts and sprinklers. It is located at the upper end of the

bathhouse and is another one-of-a-kind attraction at our community pool.

If you haven't been to the pool lately, plan to spend some time there this summer. All you need to bring with you is your suit and a towel. Lounge chairs, food, and lots of opportunity for fun are all provided!

(Continued from page 1)

volunteers! Our civic organizations, our council members, our firefighters, etc. are all VOLUNTEERS. Are you doing your part to keep this Borough a fabulous place to live?

More help is always needed. Contact the Borough office to find ways to participate and SHAZAM-- we will all benefit from your HOCUS POCUS!



Council, Mayor on Radio Show in February

The Northumberland Borough Council and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius will be guests on WKOK's "Roundtable" program, scheduled to air on February 19, 2006.

An array of topics will be discussed. "Roundtable" will air on February 19 at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. on 1070 A.M., 6 a.m. on 107.3, Eagle 107 and at 11 p.m. on 94.1, 94-KX.

Please refer questions about this broadcast to Mark Lawrence at WKOK.

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Toy Drive Thanks

The 2005 Martin Concini toy drive was a huge success! Over 65 children and families in need were assisted this Christmas. The Police Department would like to thank the Omega Bank, Priestley-Forsyth Library and Sunoco A-Plus convenience Store for allowing us to place collection boxes in their establishments. We would also like to thank the No.1 Fire Company and the many citizens who unselfishly gave donations of money and toys, which made this year's program a success.

The toy program and bicycle giveaway was started by Police Chief Martin E. Concini. The toy drive ended in 1992 with the untimely death of Chief Concini. In 1998 the Police Department saw the need to help those in our community who were less fortunate during the Christmas Season and to also remember a dear friend, Chief Martin E. Concini.

By Sgt.
Clifford "Butch" Kriner,
Drive Chairman

From the Northumberland Ministerium...

Good Friday Services will be observed at Trinity United Methodist Church, 6th & King Streets on April 14, 2006 from noon to 3:00 p.m.

National Day of Prayer will be observed at noon on May 4, 2006 in front of the Borough Building.

CHANGES ABOUND AT RECYCLING CENTER

Two new pieces of equipment have been ordered to make the center more productive and safer for the volunteers. A new Toyota forklift has been ordered to replace the diesel powered Bobcat used to move processed materials. Also ordered is a horizontal baler which will allow newspaper, magazines and in the future, plastic bottles to be processed to be sold to companies who manufacture new products from these materials. We hope these pieces of equipment will be in use by the beginning of April. Ninety percent of these equipment purchases are funded by a grant from the State.

Sorting helps a lot

Companies who use recycled materials to

make new products are requiring higher standards to be met for the materials to be reused.

Candle jars, light bulbs, window glass and other glass products that are not bottles or jars do not melt down for reuse so the entire batch is ruined by mixing materials. Shiny advertisements in newspapers need to be sorted and recycled with magazines. One envelope with a window for the address to show through can ruin a half ton of recycled newsprint. You can help the volunteers at the Liberty Recycling Center by sorting your materials before you

Liberty Recycling Winter Hours

Wednesday 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Saturday 7:00 – 11:00 am

*** In effect until April 1, 2006***

arrive. We recycle: Corrugated cardboard (cereal boxes and six pack cartons are not corrugated and cannot be recycled), Clear glass bottles and jars, green glass bottles and jars, brown glass bottles and jars, newspapers (please remove the shiny ads), steel cans, aluminum cans and magazines. Please rinse food from bottles, jars and cans.

FLOOD MITIGATION INFORMATION, 2006

Properties in Northumberland's floodplain are subject to three flood problems: over bank flooding, local drainage, and sewer backup. Over bank flooding affects properties in the Borough along Westway, and the lower ends of King and Queen Street and Orange Street. A total of 60 buildings are subject to damage during the 100-year flood

according to GIS and the Flood Insurance Rate Map. Local drainage problems include properties between 4th and 5th Street. When there is no place for the water to go, sewers back up and flow into the lowest opening in the sewer line. Sanitary sewers back up into basements and storm sewers back up into streets. Find out if your prop-

erty is in the mapped floodplain and subject to over bank flooding by calling the Borough Office.

Elevation Certificates

New construction and substantial improvements to buildings on the floodplain require a FEMA Elevation Certificate, prepared by a

(Continued on page 5)

Priestley Forsyth Library offering programs for New Year

The Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library, 100 King Street, Northumberland, offers many programs for children. Baby Lap Times are for caregivers and their little ones, birth to 24 months, to begin exploring the library. Babies listen to music and explore books and manipulatives while gaining early literacy experiences. Programs are held on alternating Mondays at 10:30. If you have an active toddler in your life, ages 24-36 months, then Toddler Tales are for you. Movement is the name of the game for these little ones. Music, songs, finger plays, and a shortened story time are offered to the smallest readers. Programs are held on alternating Mondays at 10:30.

Preschool Story Times are for preschoolers ages 3 to 5 years old. Children actively participate in most story times and

then complete a simple craft following the story. Programs are held Tuesdays at 2 PM and Friday mornings at 10:30.

School Age Programs are for children in grades K-5. The programs are usually held on In-Service days and vacation days throughout the school year. During the summer, The Summer Reading Program is offered. This coming summer's theme is "Paws, Claw, Scales, and Tales." Look for more information soon.

Teen Programs are for children 13 years and older. A Saturday Scrapbook Club is held monthly. Movie nights and craft programs are also offered.

The Children and Young Adult's area is located on the second floor of the library.

The rooms have a Circus, Space, and Castle Theme for

the youngest library users.

Teens have an area reserved just for them, The Teen Zone. Resources the library offers include: Parenting books and magazines, Big Books, Board Books, children's magazines, board games to play at the library, DVD's, videos, and Audio Books. We also offer a selection of the Shikellamy School District Guided Reader and Accelerated Reader books.

Come check out the library and see what we have to offer for your child's age group. Or let us know what suggestions you have for more programs. More information can be found on our website, www.priestleyforsyth.org, emailing us @ pfml@ptd.net, or calling and talking with Kim King, Youth Services, 473-8201 or Pam Ross, Director/Librarian.

HISTORY DAY 2006

Saturday, May 13th is the date set for History Day 2006! All activities will be held in King Street Park from 10am to 5pm. There are plenty of ideas and activities being planned and we are looking for volunteers and any special ideas you would like to see included in our day. Remember, this is a day to mark the wonderful and interesting history of Northumberland and Point Township. There has been great interest and fun had by our younger residents as they participate and prepare for History Day. Members of our community should be reinforcing the history as well as building up the pride in these children of being from such a great community.

The History Day Committee is holding monthly meetings and continues to look for volunteers as well as great historical information to include in the event. If you have something to share, please contact us through the borough office so we may include it in our special event! See you in the park!

FLOOD MITIGATION INFORMATION, 2006

(Continued from page 4)

registered surveyor.

Flood Insurance

Most homeowners insurance policies do not cover a property for flood damage. The Borough of Northumberland participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). Local insurance agents can sell an NFIP policy

under rules and rates set by the Federal government. Any house in Northumberland can be covered by a flood insurance policy. There are two types of flood insurance coverage; building coverage and contents coverage. Coverage for sump pump failure or sewer backup might be available as an addition to your homeowner's insurance pol-

icy. *Don't wait for the next flood to buy insurance protection. There is a 30 day waiting period before National Flood Insurance coverage takes effect.*

Additional information is available at the Borough Office, the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library, or online at www.northumberlandborough.com.

From the Fire Chief, Brian Crebs

Happy New Year and welcome to 2006! The beginning of a new year allows us to reflect on the year that has just past. 2005 was an exciting year for the Northumberland Fire Department. Our call volume continued to increase, we saw members continue their commitment to training, we were lucky to receive a much-needed grant to replace some obsolete equipment, and several other grants to place the latest, cutting-edge technology in the hands of our emergency responders. Additionally, the formation of the Emergency Services Board marks the most significant changes to occur in the department in the last 50 years. The Board was very successful in working with the Borough Council throughout the budget process and I'm very

much looking forward to working with them in 2006.

Looking forward to the coming year, I'd like to ask for our "customer's" help. The NFD faces many challenges on a daily basis. Naturally, responding to emergencies is a challenging job, stretching our budgets to meet rising costs is tough and there are others. There is one challenge that rises above all others. That challenge is continuing to provide quality service to our customers, the borough residents with a significant manpower shortage.

Our ranks are staffed by **VOLUNTEERS**. That's correct, the emergency responders you see working in the borough, fighting fires, handling vehicle crashes, riding what I call

BRT's (big red trucks), and answering other calls for help are **100% VOLUNTEER**. We have regular jobs and careers just like you and quite frankly the work of many is done by just a few. We get up from our dinner tables, leave our beds in the middle of the night, and go to where help is needed. You may consider this a personal invitation from the Fire Chief to come join us, if not a challenge!

You may feel that you're too young, too old, physically unable, or perhaps even slightly intimidated to become a firefighter. I couldn't disagree more! Yes there is a tremendous need for physically fit, reasonably young, individuals with the desire to learn what it is to be called a firefighter. Being a firefighter may at times mean putting yourself in harms way, in a very calculated way. This is **NOT** where the need or the challenge ends. Both the Northumberland Fire Company #1 and the Northumberland Hook & Ladder Company need active folks to help with the work that needs to be done. I can say very comfortably that there is a place for YOU in the NFD! Help is needed operationally (Fire/Rescue), help is needed administratively, with fundraising, help is also needed with things like equipment, vehicle, and building maintenance. If you have a talent or a skill, and even just a little bit of free time, we are interested in YOU coming to work as part of the team that is the NFD. If you have a day or an hour a week, or just a few hours a month, we're in-

(Continued on page 7)

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From the Fire Chief, Brian Crebs

(Continued from page 6)

interested in YOU! No skills or training? (And here's the best part!) We offer On-the-job-training, FREE!

For the younger folks, both stations offer structured Junior Firefighter programs that start as young as 14 years old. These programs allow young adults gain education and training in emergency response, with a definite focus on regular academics, till they reach the age of 18 when they can act as senior firefighters. This experience turns

out a well-trained and oriented firefighter, who will show maturity and discipline early.

Now that I've peaked your interest, how do you sign up? EASY. Both stations have weekly training Tuesday evenings at 7pm. The No 1's are located at Second & Queen Streets and you'll find the Hookies at 348 Fifth Street. Additionally, the Hookies do maintenance most Sunday mornings around 8am.

OR, stop by the Emergency Services Board meetings the 2nd Tuesday of each

month at the council chambers, 7pm. Feel free to approach any member about getting on board, stop by the Borough Office, or call my office direct at 473-1975.

Thank you again for a great 2005 and we'll look forward to seeing you in '06!

Thank you!

Brian Crebs

Fire Chief

New Board Up and Running

The Emergency Services Board was formed from the recommendation of the Emergency Services Task Force. The Fire Board was also dissolved when the Emergency Services Board was formed.

This new board consists of 3 citizens at-large (appointed by the Borough Council), one representative from the Hook & Ladder Fire Company and one representative from the #1 Fire Company.

The Emergency Services Board will oversee the fire department, the day to day running of the fire department, the fire department budget and also the exploration of getting grants for the fire department.

The current board consists of James Troup, chairperson (Hookies representative), Judyann Schmidt, secretary (citizen at large), Michael Hixson (#1s representative), Dean Paul (citizen at large) and Eben Gibbs (citizen at large).

The meetings will be held the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at the Borough Building.

All the meetings are open to the public and the public is welcome to come and provide input.

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Realtor
ext. 205



Connie Brown
Realtor
ext. 206



Debbie Brouse
Associate Broker
GRI, CRS
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Jill Sokalzuk
Realtor
ext. 208



Mike Diehl
Associate Broker
ext. 209



Sally Diehl
Rentals/Prop. Mgmt.
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286-8856

Hummels Wharf
87 Lori Lane
Selinsgrove, PA
884-1050



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Slodysko Named New Streets Supervisor

Welcome, Tom Slodysko! On January 3rd, Tom was hired as the new supervisor for the Public Works Department. A resident of Northumberland since 1983, Tom lives on River-view Drive with his wife, Mary, and son, Jordan. Tom has served the Borough in other capacities over the years. He was a member of Borough Council and Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee for a number of years. Tom spent a lot of his time as Chairman work-

ing to make Liberty Splashland a better place for the community. Along with former Councilman Greg Carl, Slodysko helped in painting the pool's buildings as well as infrastructures, among other projects. Before joining the Borough as supervisor, Tom had been a self-employed contractor.

Slodysko replaces Nate Fisher, who resigned in late November.

The supervisor position in the Borough is a working

position whereas Slodysko participates in all activities required along with the Borough crew who he supervises. It is a non-union position and he reports to the Borough Manager/Secretary for day-to-day specific and general directions. For those that have questions or concerns regarding the public works department in the Borough, you may get in contact with Slodysko by contacting the Borough Office during normal business hours.

Jobs For Students for this Summer

College students and college-bound high school seniors who receive P.H.E.A.A. loans or grants are eligible to participate in the Summer Intern Program. Interested students should contact the Borough Office after February 15th to obtain more information and application forms. In the past, the borough has employed students to work at Liberty Splashland and with the Borough Crew. At Liberty Splashland, the students are employed as lifeguards, concession stand operators, maintenance, and front desk personnel. Students working with the borough street crew help to cut grass, trim, paint crosswalks, and other property maintenance throughout the Borough. Students may earn up to \$2,500 during the summer months through this program.

Volunteers Welcomed

Those interested in assisting the Borough this summer with taking care of the King Street Pond should contact us today! We are looking for individuals with some experience with taking care of outdoor ponds. Supplies will be provided.

Home Health and Hospice... *it's all we do*

SELECTING

a home health or hospice provider is an important decision that you should make with your physician. It is your right to choose your health care providers, especially those that you invite into your home. When you need home health or hospice, call the experts...it's all we do!

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Health Officer's Report

STAY HEALTHY: This is cold and flu season, washing your hands properly and often can be one of the best ways to avoid catching the bugs (bacteria and virus) that cause colds and flu. Many people believe the germs are spread by coughing or sneezing. The fact is most germs are spread by hand-to-hand contact with other people and also door knobs, grocery cart handles etc.

We in the Health Department are very emphatic about hand washing in the food industry be it processing or food service. I remind everyone that if you see food handlers who are not following good food handling practices, to report them to their managers and/or to the Health Department for that location.

THE SCIENCE BASED "WE CAN!" is a program to help parents teach their children to:

Eat a sufficient amount of a variety of fruits and vegetables each day

Choose small portions at home and at restaurants

Eat fewer high-fat foods and energy-dense foods that are low in nutrient

(Continued on page 14)

EMERGENCY SERVICES GETS NEW FUNDING IN 2006 BUDGET

In December, the Northumberland Borough Council passed its 2006 budget, which includes additional funding for emergency services operations in the Borough. For the new fiscal year, which began January 1st, a new emergency services tax was implemented that will add 2 mills of tax onto the overall property tax collected in the Borough. All other property taxes collected will remain the same as in 2005. In total, real estate taxes for the new year will go from 19.23 to 21.23, which is

the first increase since 2004.

In addition, the Borough has eliminated the much-used occupational privilege tax, and replaced it with a new Emergency and Municipal Services tax. The \$10 OPT tax will be replaced by a \$21 EMST tax, which is collected from each person working in the Borough who makes more than \$10,000 a year. In total, \$61,819 will be allocated in 2006 for emergency services.

The funds now allocated to emergency services will go

for must-needed equipment purchases in the Borough.

As in past years, the Police and Road Maintenance departments will utilize the most significant part of the Borough Budget, with the departments getting \$361,236 and \$341,104, respectively.

Copies of the 2006 budget are available in the Borough office or online at northumberlandborough.com.

For a summary of this budget, please go to page 11.

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT, BRYAN M. WOLFE

Borough Council got to work for another year on the evening of January 3, 2006, when we met to re-organize. Here, I was very appreciative in accepting another term as the Council's president. At that meeting, we had the pleasure of welcoming Frank Wetzel to the table, who was elected to Council in November.

First on our agenda for the new year will be how to utilize the much-needed grant money that we will soon receive for Second Street. As many know, through good intentions,

Council decided in 2000 to purchase the former Second Street School for use as a Community Center. Since that time, progress has been slow despite the dedication of many volunteers. The reason: surprise, surprise, the lack of money. Now, thanks to Rep. Merle Phillips, the dedication of Mayor Gretchen Brosius, and of course, the commitment of the Second Street Committee, much needed funding will soon be available and as such, significant progress should be made on this project in 2006. While the \$400,000 to-be-

received won't be enough to complete the Center, it will certainly be a start and should assist us in seeking and receiving additional funding.

Also on our plates will be our increased focus on recreation in the Borough. Long dormant, the much needed Recreation committee was again started this winter, headed by Noelle Long. We all have a vested interest in giving our youth more recreational opportunities in Northumberland and this is where you come

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Working for you...

A summary of the 2006 Borough of Northumberland Budget.

Income	2005	2006	Change	Percentage
Real Estate Taxes	\$ 368,369	\$ 377,810	2.56%	32.24%
ESF/OPT	\$ 12,050	\$ 25,250	109.54%	2.15%
Per Capita	\$ 11,300	\$ 11,300	0.00%	0.96%
Transfer Tax	\$ 30,000	\$ 32,000	6.67%	2.73%
Earned Income Tax	\$ 305,000	\$ 320,000	4.92%	27.31%
Special Road Fund	\$ 65,217	\$ 65,659	0.68%	5.60%
Debt Service	\$ 69,782	\$ 70,255	0.68%	6.00%
Fire Tax	\$ -	\$ 52,527	0.00%	4.48%
Recreation Tax	\$ 15,652	\$ 15,758	0.68%	1.34%
Fees Collected	\$ 48,210	\$ 45,260	-6.12%	3.86%
Miscellaneous Revenues	\$ 184,632	\$ 155,932	-15.54%	13.31%
	\$ 1,110,212	\$ 1,171,752	5.54%	100.00%
Expenses				
Office/Administrative	\$ 142,155	\$ 171,882	20.91%	14.67%
Police Department	\$ 343,106	\$ 361,236	5.28%	30.83%
Fire Company	\$ 24,606	\$ 61,819	151.24%	5.28%
Code Enforcement	\$ 20,742	\$ 21,339	2.88%	1.82%
EMA	\$ 500	\$ 1,000	100.00%	0.09%
Property	\$ 1,050	\$ 3,500	233.33%	0.30%
Health	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,050	0.00%	0.09%
Recycling	\$ 11,850	\$ 2,850	-75.95%	0.24%
Streets Department	\$ 354,337	\$ 341,104	-3.73%	29.11%
Debt Service	\$ 69,782	\$ 70,255	0.68%	6.00%
Parks and Recreation	\$ 15,652	\$ 15,758	0.68%	1.34%
Second Street	\$ 5,506	\$ 3,176	-42.32%	0.27%
Insurances	\$ 112,126	\$ 111,533	-0.53%	9.52%
Contributions	\$ 7,750	\$ 5,250	-32.26%	0.45%
	\$ 1,110,212	\$ 1,171,752	5.54%	100.00%

Note: Work on each years' budget begins in August of each year during Borough finance committee meetings, that are open to the public. For more information concerning the 2006 budget, and the entire budget process, please contact us at 473-3414.

Borough Hours, 2006

Council Offices Closed...The Borough offices will be closed on Monday, February 20th and Friday, April 14 in observant of the President's Day and Good Friday holidays, respectively.

Normal Hours...Regular Borough office hours for 2006 are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. until Noon. The office is closed each day from Noon until 1 p.m. for lunch.



Borough Accepts New Streets

Two new streets in the Branchview Development have been accepted as Borough Streets. The first is an extension of Madison Avenue from the intersection of Madison and Jefferson Street. The second street extends from Madison Avenue and runs parallel

to Buchanan Street, with a cul-de-sac behind the homes on Susquehanna Street. This street had been designated as Truman Lane on the Branchview Development plans. The Borough Council has decided to rename this street Reagan Circle in mem-

ory of President Ronald Reagan. New construction has begun in the development. Last year, three homes were been completed and several more lots have been sold with construction anticipated for this year.

Community Events

Trinity United Methodist Church
6th & King Streets
473-9145

Come and join us for fun and fellowship at Sweetheart Bingo and Game Afternoon. These events are free to the community. See you there!

Sweetheart Bingo
Sunday, February 12th
3:00 - 5:00 pm

Game Afternoon
Sunday, March 12th
3:00 - 5:00 pm.

	<p>KEYSTONE INSURERS GROUP</p> <p><i>Regional Office, Owned and Operated by:</i> Pfeiffer-Naginey Insurance, Inc. 205 Front Street Northumberland, PA 17857 Phone: (570) 473-3563</p> <p>PROVIDING PERSONAL AND COMMERCIAL INSURANCE PRODUCTS</p>
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value such as French fries, bacon, and doughnuts

Substitute water or fat-free or low fat milk for sweetened beverages such as sodas

Engage in at least 60 minutes of moderate physical activity on most, preferably all days of the week

Reduce recreational screen time (such as television, computers, and games) to no more than two (2) hours daily

For more information : <http://wecan.nhlbi.nih.gov> or call (866)35-WE CAN (359-3226)

My New Year resolution for all of us:

Eat a healthy diet and teach/guide our children to do the same (Childhood diabetes and obesity are not a desirable goal)

Practice safe food handling

Wash hands properly and often

Have a good New Year,
Lee Shaffer, Health Officer

MAYOR'S MESSAGE FOR HER NEW TERM

(Continued from page 1)

groups, and the Liberty Glass Recycling Workers, I say thank you. And of course to those who have served on the Borough Council and to our firefighters and our fire police, I say thank you. Some of you have volunteered your time with the children and youth of our community. (Little League. Legion Baseball, AYSO, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Swim Team, and the police and others who have volunteered their time with the Soap Box Race and the Christmas Toy Drive and parades) and I thank you all. Thanks to the local businesses and organizations who have donated resources to sponsor many of the community events. As you see, it does require many volunteers to keep a community active. There are some who have faithfully fed the fish in the pond and cleaned it. Some tie bows for the gazebo, and help paint and repair the Santa house and prepare the decorations for the holiday season. Some plant and weed in our parks and at the entrances to the town. There are church groups and youth groups who lend a hand. And to anyone I have forgotten unknowingly, I apologize. All of

you have served the community well and I am proud to be your mayor.

THANKS TO ALL

Rep. Phillips Secures Grants for Northumberland Volunteers

The Second Street Community Center had applied to the Department of Community and Economic Development for a grant to help renovate the Second Street building. Through the efforts of Rep. Merle Phillips, a grant for \$400,000 was secured for the project. These funds will enable the renovations to move forward.

Rep. Phillips was also instrumental in securing a \$15,000 DCED grant for the Little League organization for a backstop at the Pineknotted Park ball field.

A \$25,000 DCED grant was also awarded to the Northumberland Fire Police for equipment. We thank Rep. Phillips for his support to our volunteer efforts.

I Have A Dream

As your Mayor I have a dream for Northumberland by the end of 2007. This dream can come true with

funds and volunteers. My dream envisions one or two new playgrounds in the Borough of Northumberland as well as a renovated gymnasium at the old Second Street School where young and old can enjoy many activities. Funds have been received from the Pineknotted Days Association, the Northumberland Pt/Township Kiwanis Club, private donations and the SSCC fundraisers. These donations and the DCED grant of \$400,000 will go a long way to make this dream a reality. Now it is the time for you to volunteer your serves. Various fund raisers and campaigns will be in full force in 2006 and we need you to help us. The Second Street Community Center Committee will be meeting on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., following the 6 p.m. Recreation committee meeting. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend these meetings. We value your input. If you would like to help with these projects but cannot make the meetings, please call the Borough Office. Thank you in advance for making this dream a reality.

- Mayor Brosius

CONTRACTOR LICENSES REQUIRED IN BOROUGH

The Borough Council has recently enacted a new ordinance to be added to the "Building Construction" section of the Northumberland Borough Code as Section 23-6. This ordinance requires that all business entities or individuals performing services as building contractors, remodelers, excavators or erectors, have

a valid license issued by the Code Office which will have proof of insurance as a requirement. The license will be effective for one year and may be renewed on an annual basis each January. The license becomes null and void if the insurance policy expires during the one-year term. The cost for a license is set at

\$30.00. If you are hiring someone to do any type of construction at your home, please ask to see their Contractor's License. If they have not obtained one, they must do so before they begin construction. The licenses are available at the Borough Office.

Failure to act could result in fines.

Building Inspection

In 2004, Pennsylvania began enforcing a law requiring that construction projects be inspected. Building Inspection provides enforcement of the Uniform Construction Code to ensure the minimum safety standards of building, mechanical, plumbing and electrical systems to protect residential and commercial building users. Before applying for a Building Permit, a Pre-permit inspection is conducted to ascertain compliance with the provisions of the Code. Other inspections required are Footing; Foundation; Framing and Masonry; Plumbing, Mechanical and Electrical; Energy/Insulation; Wall Board; and a Final Inspection. A Certificate of Occupancy is provided to the property owner prior to inhabitation. If you are planning a building project, contact Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, at the Borough Office to learn about the requirements.

Kiwanis Club

Northumberland/ Point Twp. Kiwanis Club Community Center is available to rent for parties, wedding receptions, anniversaries, birthdays, reunions. Please contact Jane Ressler (473-8343), Michael McWilliams (473-9802) or the Borough Office (473-3414) for available dates. The rental fee is \$150. A deposit fee of \$50 is required.

Kiwanis is a service club and we welcome new members to serve in our club who are community minded and interested in serving our community. Please contact the above persons.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

(Continued from page 10)

in: join us today on the Recreation committee. Contact the Borough for more information. Despite rebirth at Pineknott Park and at Liberty Splashland, we recognize that other recreational opportunities need to be considered. Get involved in this process today! If you

have ideas, concerns or the like, we definitely want your input.

Finally, on a personal note, I send out a public thank-you to Donald Troxell, who served faithfully and with distinction as a Councilmen for the past four years. Thanks to Donnie, the Borough's street de-

partment is better organized, and our road projects better detailed. Everyone in the Borough should thank him for his service.

And on that note, have a terrific winter season!

Please contact me at president@northumberlandborough.com anytime.

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The Pineknotted 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.

Important Dates—February—April 2006

February 7—Borough Council Meeting

February 20—Borough Offices closed

February 21—Borough Council Workshop

March 7—Borough Council Meeting

March 21—Borough Council Workshop

April 4—Borough Council Meeting

April 14—Borough Offices closed

April 18—Borough Council Workshop

Our Next Issue... The next issue of *The Pineknotted News* will be published in time for the 2006 History Day Celebrations scheduled for May 13, 2006. For those interested in submitting advertising or sending in articles for publication, kindly do so by Friday, April 7.