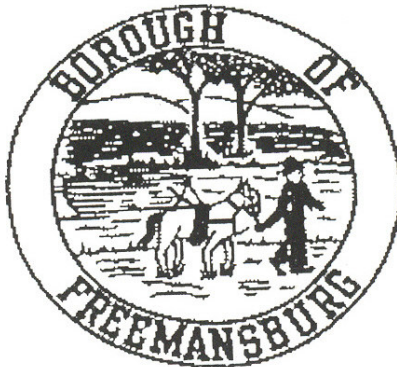


Newsletter



December 2005

MAYOR'S CORNER

At the recent Christmas Party for the Police and Firemen, the Mayor presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Chief of Police, George Bruneio, for outstanding leadership and dedication, and to Mike Micholochick, Jr., for outstanding volunteer service to the Borough. Both men deserve to be acknowledged in this way. The Mayor hopes to continue with this on a yearly basis.

Mayor and Mrs. Yob wish all a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a New Year filled with joy, good health and peace.

**REMEMBER:
DON'T DRINK
AND DRIVE!**



The 2006 budget has been approved, and you will be happy to know there will be no net increases to Borough property taxes, sewer user fees or garbage collection fees. A copy of the 2006 budget is available for review at the Borough offices during regular business hours.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Updated phone contact information!

We appreciate your patience as we work on better ways to serve you with the new phone system. Please note the minor changes listed below that have been made to the programming of the phone tree. The emergency numbers remain the same. Administrative and police offices can be reached using one main number (610-866-2220).

Emergency Services: 911
Non-emergency: 610-330-2200
(County dispatch)
Borough & Police: 610-866-2220
Prompt 1 for police (non-emergency)
Prompt 2 for the mayor
Prompt 3 for borough offices
Prompt 4 for code enforcement
Prompt 5 for the parks and recreation
Prompt 6 for the fire company – or –
Fire Company 610-691-9559
(non-emergency)
J.P. Mascaro 800-333-4624
(garbage / recycling collection)
Direct extensions are:
x **101** for the Executive Administrator
x **102** for Sewer & Sanitation billings
x **103** for Building & Codes
x **105** for the Police Chief
x **106** for the Mayor

RECREATION COMMITTEE

Thank you to all of the residents who participated with the Children's Christmas Party and the Tree Lighting Ceremony. Special thanks to the Parks & Recreation Committee who sponsored and planned the events, the members of the Volunteer Fire Company who decorated the tree on Main Street, the Christ Lutheran Church who provided a live Nativity at the tree lighting, the Celebration Committee and the Church for providing musical accompaniment, and of course, the big guy himself, Santa, for stopping by the Borough Hall during the Children's Party. Happy Holidays to one and all!

BOROUGH OFFICE HOLIDAYS

The Borough Offices will be closed **Monday, December 26th** and **Monday, January 2nd**. Regular business hours are 8:00am to 4:00pm unless otherwise posted. **Council re-organization will be held Tuesday, January 3, 2006** with swearing in of newly elected officials at 7:00 pm. Re-organization and a brief meeting will follow.

STREETS DEPARTMENT

And to think - it's not even winter yet! We would like to let everyone know our snow plowing plan: In general, we try to keep the hills and the most - traveled routes passable. We will normally have two trucks out during a storm. One truck will concentrate on the busier routes and hills, the second truck will be make single passes on the side streets to keep a lane of travel open.

As soon as the snow stops we will again make sure the hills and busier routes are clear, moving on to the other streets, plowing curb to curb where possible, one street at a time. If you can wait until your street is plowed to finish clearing your driveway, please do so. With the weight of the snow we cannot turn the plows to avoid pushing the snow in front of the driveways.

Also, if you put your garbage cans or other debris on the alley side of your property, please make sure it is far enough back to allow passage of the plows. And remember, public roads are done first, with alleys last.

ADDITIONAL SNOW REMINDERS

- If you have off street parking please use it during snow storms. With fewer parked cars to work around, it is easier and safer for the workers.
- Do not pile or throw snow into the street. It is not only a hazard, it's against the law!
- The Borough Hall rear parking lot is available for temporary parking in the event of a storm.
- When snow emergency is in effect, please restrict non-essential travel.
- Snow is a time for fun for your children. For their safety, please instruct them to stay clear of traffic and snow plows.

ORDINANCE UPDATE

Borough Council recently adopted a yard sale / temporary business license ordinance (#2005-18). The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the perpetual selling of goods on residential properties.

Highlights of the ordinance include:

- A maximum of 4 yard sales per year per household
- The maximum duration of any yard sale shall be 3 consecutive days
- A permit must be obtained for a yard sale which shall be held within 15 days of issuance of the permit
- Yard sales shall only be permitted between April 1st and October 31st and only on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays.
- The first permit per year is free. Subsequent permits are \$25, \$35, then \$50.
- Exemptions do exist, however you should contact the Borough offices for details.

Permit application forms are available from the Borough office. The ordinance becomes effective January 1st of 2006.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MAIN STREET BUSINESS

Steel City Landscapers, LLC is now located at 620 Main Street in Freemansburg. Proprietors are Manny and Tina Cruz. Currently, they are selling holiday decorations and trees, and hope to continue with seasonal products throughout the year. In addition to the retail aspect of their business, they specialize in site grading, hydro-seeding and landscape planting services. The business is a very attractive addition to our Main Street corridor. Welcome Steel City Landscapers, Manny and Tina Cruz!

SNOW REMOVAL FROM SIDEWALKS

Please be reminded, in accordance with Borough ordinance #150-70, "...the responsibility for removal of snow, ice and other obstructions or hazards from pedestrian walkways..." is "...the owner, occupant, possessor, tenant, caretaker or groundskeeper..." of the property "...within 24 hours after the snow, ice, other obstruction or hazard has fallen, formed or appeared..." This is for everyone's safety, especially the children walking to and from school. Police will be enforcing this ordinance and there are penalties and fines for non-compliance.

BETHLEHEM AREA PUBLIC LIBRARY

Membership in the Bethlehem Area Public Library is FREE to Freemansburg residents. The Book Mobile stops at the Freemansburg Elementary School on Thursdays. For Library hours and Book Mobile times, call 610-867-3761.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- Borough Council meets the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month unless otherwise posted. In January meetings will be held on Tuesday the 3rd and Tuesday the 17th due to holidays on the previous Mondays.
- The Parks & Recreation Committee now meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month.
- The American Legion Post 31 meets the 1st Thursday of each month (September through June).
- The Volunteer Fire Company meets the 4th Thursday of each month.