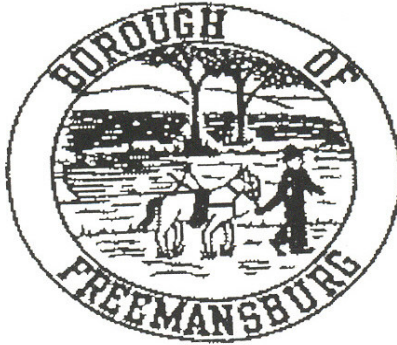


# Newsletter



March 2006

## THE MAYOR'S CORNER

*Gerald C. Yob, Mayor*

We welcome two new members to Borough Council. Elected in November were Francine Korpics Heft and Tonya Thanhauser. Robert Osborn returns to Council, appointed to fill an additional vacant seat.

In accordance with Borough ordinances, sidewalks must be cleaned within 24 hours following a snowstorm. Also, throwing snow into the streets is against the law. It could be the cause of an accident if a car were passing at the time and be hit by the thrown snow. These ordinances will be enforced following all future snowfalls.

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### Elected Officials for 2006 - 2007:

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**Mayor:** Gerald C. Yob  
**Council President:** Donald Lasso  
**Vice President:** Charles Derr  
Lisa Bartholomew  
Rita Gomes  
Francine Heft  
Robert Osborn  
Tonya Thanhauser  
**Tax Collector:** Davina Gallich

## WE NEED YOU!

Volunteers are needed for a variety of committees, including the 150 – year Anniversary Celebration, the Freemansburg Beautification and Preservation Committee, the Parks and Recreation Board, the Civil Service Commission, the Planning Commission and the Zoning Hearing Board. If you are interested in becoming involved in these rewarding committees, please contact any of the Borough Council members or the Borough offices.

## LEHIGH VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT

The Borough of Freemansburg recently received \$5,000 from the Lehigh Valley Community Foundation for community development improvements to the "Gateway" property (next to the Freemansburg Bridge), and new banners on Main Street.

The LVCF develops, manages, and distributes the philanthropy of a variety of contributors in order to improve the quality of life for residents of the Lehigh Valley. The Borough is grateful to the Foundation and proud to be a recipient of such a prestigious program.

## HELP KEEP FREEMANSBURG CLEAN

### Garbage Collection:

Garbage collection is on Fridays, except in the event of a holiday, when it may be Saturday. Garbage MUST be in bags and the bags MUST be in a garbage can. It is recommended the cans be placed at the curb the night before, however not earlier than 5:00 pm. Recyclables are collected every other week. The hauler will pick up bulk items with advance notice.

If you have problems with your garbage pick up, please call J.P. Mascaro directly at 1-800-333-4624.

If you need a 2006 schedule, extra copies are available at the Borough offices.

### Pets:

The Dog Leash Law is a State Law. All dogs must be on a leash when outside. They are not allowed to run unattended throughout the neighborhood! This is a nuisance to your neighbors as well as dangerous for your pet.

Also, please remember to clean up after your pet. Animal feces are a pollutant to our water resources as well as a sanitation hazard.

**(Continued on Back)**

### Yard Debris:

Now that winter is over, people will be spending more time outside. Please clean up the debris that has accumulated in your yards over the winter. Do not dump it in the woods behind your house. Most of these materials can be picked up by the trash hauler. If you are having trouble getting rid of something, please call the borough offices and we may be able to assist you with finding an appropriate disposal site.

### Yard Sales:

As reported in the last newsletter, the Borough has adopted a yard sale ordinance. The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the perpetual selling of goods on residential properties. Residents must obtain a permit from the Borough offices before having a yard sale. The first permit application for the calendar year is free. Permit application forms are available from the Borough office. The ordinance became effective January 1<sup>st</sup> of 2006.

### EARNED INCOME TAX REMINDER

EIT (Earned Income Tax) forms are now available at the Borough Office. All residents are required to file a form and if applicable, pay a 1% tax on their income. **Although the forms are mailed to the City of Bethlehem, you must indicate on the form your municipality of residence is the Borough of Freemansburg, so that your tax dollars are properly allocated to the Borough.** Forms for 2005 must be filed by April 15, 2006.

### BOROUGH OFFICE HOLIDAYS

Please note that the Borough Offices will be closed Friday, April 14, 2006 for Good Friday. Regular business hours are 8:00 am to 4:00 pm unless otherwise posted. There is a drop box next to the rear entrance for your convenience.

### PARKS & RECREATION BOARD

The Parks & Recreation Board is preparing for its Annual Easter Events!! Our annual Easter Egg Hunt is on **Saturday, April 8th**. Activities will be held at Borough Hall starting at 1:00 pm. The egg hunt starts PROMPTLY at 2:00 pm. Join us for a bake sale, face painting, raffles, and of course, the EASTER BUNNY!! Also, come out and help the Easter Bunny paint eggs at Borough Hall on Friday night, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

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REMEMBER: When supplying your address for any reason, you must emphasize that you live in **FREEMANSBURG 18017**, not Bethlehem.



### 150 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Enclosed is an update on the exciting events we have planned for the Borough's 150 Year Anniversary Celebrations! Also celebrating milestones this year are the Freemansburg Volunteer Fire Company at 100 years and the Freemansburg American Legion Post at 60 years!

Proud residents of the Borough can participate in these celebrations by donating pictures for the pictorial history display, participating in the Celebration Parade, registering your family name in the souvenir program, nominating someone for the 'Oldest Resident,' soliciting advertising donations and, **MOST IMPORTANTLY**, by joining your friends and neighbors August 11, 12, 13 for these memorable events.

### COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT SURVEY

We have had an AWESOME response to the Block Grant Surveys! There are still some of you who haven't returned a form. Another copy is enclosed for your convenience. We must have responses from everyone in order to have a successful application!

The information generated from this survey will benefit you as a resident, and help the Borough's eligibility for more grant-related projects. Grant funding gives the Borough money to do certain projects that would otherwise come out of taxpayer dollars.

The information collected is confidential and to be utilized only for this specific program. If you haven't completed a form please do so and return it to Borough Hall as soon as possible. If you have already submitted the information - **THANK YOU!**

### 2006 SEWER BILLINGS

You may be thinking the sewer bill is a little early this month, and you would be correct! The new billing cycle will be the 1<sup>st</sup> of the last month on the quarter, and you will still have 45 days to pay. Discounts for the entire year will be available the billing of the first quarter of the New Year. The schedule for 2006 is as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> quarter – invoice Mar. 1, 2006  
(Jan/Feb/Mar) due April 15, 2006

**This first billing will allow a discount rate for the entire year through December 31, 2006.**

2<sup>nd</sup> quarter – invoice June 1, 2006  
(Apr/May/June) due July 15, 2006

3<sup>rd</sup> quarter – invoice Sept. 1, 2006  
(Jul/Aug/Sep) due Oct. 15, 2006

4<sup>th</sup> quarter - invoice Dec. 1, 2006  
(Oct/Nov/Dec) due Jan. 15, 2007

There is no anticipated increase in the sewer billing rate for 2006.