



Butler Township Newsletter

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Volume I, Issue 3

9-1-1

Not Just for Emergencies Anymore

Many people have said "I can't call 9-1-1 when it is not an emergency." The answer to that is yes, you can. While 9-1-1 started out as an emergency only number, it is now used in all instances to see a Police Officer for any reason. The Butler Township Police Department is dispatched through the Butler County 9-1-1 Center. All of the patrol units are in radio contact with the 9-1-1 Center. When Police assistance is needed, the 9-1-1 Center contacts the Police units by radio and gives them the location and other information the Police need to respond. This response can be for reasons both emergency and non-emergency. Following you will find examples:

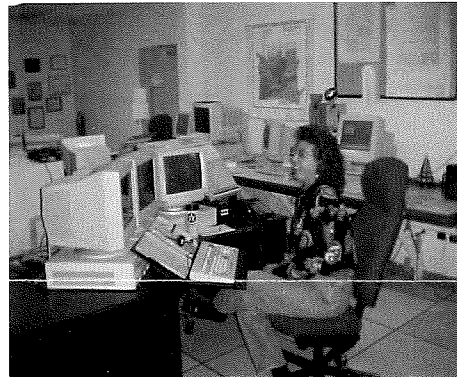
Emergency Situations

If you are awakened by noises outside your residence, domestic disputes or an ambulance is needed.

Non-Emergency Situations

Barking dogs, slippery roads, street signs knocked down and traffic light out.

When you call 9-1-1 be prepared to tell the 9-1-1 Operator why you are calling, your name, the location you are calling from and your phone number. There are a few things you can do to help the Police, Ambulance or the Fire Departments locate you when help is needed, be it emergency or non-emergency. Display your house number in four inch or larger numbers near the front door of your residence. If your house is not visible from the road, place your house number on your mailbox or place it on a post near the entrance to your driveway. Do not place anything on utility poles! If it is dark, turn on your outside lights.



Tracy Nanna, Telecommunicator

C.O.R.E.

Civilian Operating Radar Equipment

A meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2001, at 7:00 pm to kick off the neighborhood speed watch program and to seek the support of interested civilians.

The Police Department has received numerous speeding complaints in areas that are heavily populated with children and in other neighborhoods where speed is a major concern to the residents. In response to those complaints Butler Township has purchased a radar device which will display the motorist's speed on an illuminated sign. The goal is to make the radar device available to civilians to operate the equipment in their neighborhood to make the motorists aware of their speed so they can reduce their speed according to the posted speed limit. The radar device will be used as a motorist advisory tool only and would not be subject to enforcement.

The equipment is portable and easy to operate. Those interested should attend the meeting to learn more about the equipment and its intended use and purpose in the community.

2001 Budget

The highlight of the 2001 Budget Message is nothing new. For the EIGHTH Consecutive Year, Real Estate Millage in Butler Township will be 13 mills.

The proposed Budget for 2001 included the following amounts:

<u>Fund Name</u>	<u>Budget Amount</u>
General Fund	\$4,322,572
Fireman's Relief	\$ 78,000
Police Pension	\$ 227,842
Stormwater /Capital	\$ 578,782
Highway Aid	\$ 360,502
Park Development	\$ 58,550
Emergency Reserve	\$ 210,128
Recreation Grant	\$ 42
Total - All Funds	\$5,836,418

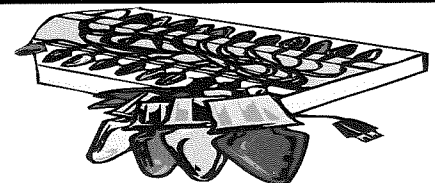
1 Mill of Real Estate Tax equals approximately \$101,000.

Holiday Safety Tips

During the Holiday Season more and more outside decorating is being done. Some helpful tips to follow are:

1. Use only U-L approved cords and lights for outside use.
2. Stay away from overhead electric lines.
3. Don't over-load electrical circuits.

If you plan to put up a live Christmas tree in the house, make sure to check and water it everyday.



Commissioners Corner

Shirley J. Protzman
Paul L. Langland
Donna M. Druga
Joseph J. Hasychak
Fred R. Brown

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas as you drive through the Township. The season again is aglow with lights and decorations. As we draw closer to Christmas, and drive through the Township, we can enjoy the beauty of the decorations and lights. It always amazes me at the variety of ideas and the different configurations that are displayed. Do try as part of your holiday festivities to go throughout and view the lights, and I promise you that you will be glad you did.

It seems like yesterday that we were preparing for the new millenium and wondering if we would make the transition into the 21st Century without problems. We made it through and now we are busy preparing for another New Year and with that comes the Budget for 2001. I am happy to report that in spite of the additional cost of our health insurance this year we were able to hold the tax rate the same once again. I am sure you will find good news in the article Manager Gerald Patterson, Jr., has on the budget.

I have been approached many times by residents saying we cannot call 9-1-1 unless we have an emergency, so we called Director Frank Matis for information and I hope the article helps to give a little clearer understanding.

Included in this issue is a list of the streets that were paved as part of our summer project, also a few tips on preparing for winter.

The Recreation Department had a trip to Phipps Conservatory and Hartwood Acres with a stop at the Spaghetti Warehouse for dinner.

Floyd Snyder, Park and Recreation Maintenance, has reported an outstanding sale of leaf bags this year.

Leaf bags are sold for twenty-five cents per bag, which is the Townships cost. Our schedule for the leaf bag sales and leaf pickups will be in our April 2001 issue.

This is your newsletter and we hope to make it interesting for you. If you have any questions or would like to see anything added please contact the Municipal Building.

In keeping with the Holiday spirit and speaking for all the Commissioners we wish you the merriest of Holidays and a Prosperous New Year.

Shirley Protzman, President
Board of Commissioners

Winter Driving Tips from the Road Department

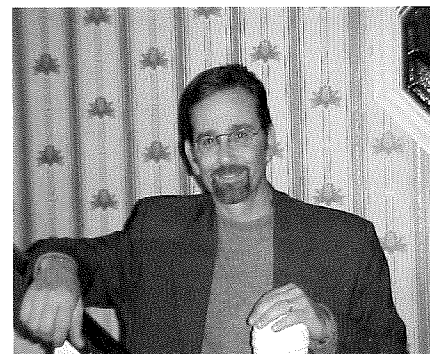
A few tips to keep in mind this winter season to help the Road Department expedite snow removal operations and help make your life a littler easier:

1. Keep cars, boats, and trailers parked in the driveway (off-street parking), not on the street.
2. When you shovel snow from your driveway, do not throw it onto the paved portion of the road; there is an Ordinance and a penalty by fine against this action.
3. While shoveling snow (where your driveway meets the road), always shovel the bulk of the snow to the left corner of your driveway, when facing your house.
4. While traveling over our Township roads during slippery conditions and you see a Township snow removal truck with a flashing yellow strobe light, let that truck around you. The driver of that truck will make your travel much safer.
5. Wherever you are going in the winter months, remember to leave earlier than normal and drive more carefully. Adjust you vehicle speed to existing conditions.



Zoning ~ Temporary Changes in Operation

In October of this year, Butler Township hired Craig Lawrence as Regulations Inspector to replace Dan Hortert who left Butler Township in June. Craig and his wife Angela have two daughters and reside in Butler Township. Craig will be completing a Certification Program for One and Two Family Residential Inspectors and has started a six month mentoring program with Ron Ruskin, Senior Inspector from Gateway Engineers, Inc. Until Craig completes his mentoring program and obtains at least two of the modules necessary for Certification, building inspections will be performed on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays by Gateway Engineers, Inc.. You must notify the Zoning Office of building inspections prior to 4:15 p.m. of the previous day.



2000 Leaf Bag Statistics	
March 25th	862 bags sold
October 7th	1,643 bags sold
October 28th	5,211 bags sold
November 4th	1,524 bags sold

If at first you do succeed,
try not to look astonished!

Vogel Disposal Service, Inc.

Butler Township has contracted with Vogel Disposal Service, Inc. to provide solid waste disposal and recycling services. The contract period commences January 1, 2001 through January 3, 2004. Service under this contract is mandatory for all residents of one and two family dwellings, without exceptions

Quarterly price per unit for once a week solid waste collection/disposal and bi-weekly recycling for all residences consisting of not more than two dwelling units is \$23.82.

If you have any questions or problems with your waste or recycling collection, please call our Customer Service Department at 285-8844.

Christmas Trees placed at curbside shall be picked up at no extra cost to the residents from December 26th through January 31st.

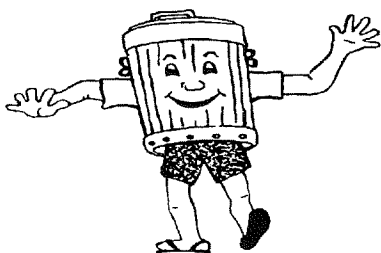
Recycling Guidelines

Glass - clear, amber and green glass from beverage bottles and food jars. Rinse bottles and jars, remove and discards lids, do not break glass (labels may be left on).

Aluminum, steel and bi-metal cans - aluminum, steel, bi-metal food and beverage cans. Rinse cans; if lid is on can, please push down inside can; if lid is off, discard in garbage.

Plastics (PETE, HDPE) Stamped #1 or #2 on bottom - Clear, plastic soda bottles, milk and water jugs, liquid detergent, bleach and softener bottles. Rinse, remove and discards lids.

Newsprint and magazines - Newspapers and magazines. Place in grocery bags, paper or plastic. Do not tie.



*Butler Township Road Department
Paved the following roads this
year:*

Hot mix overlay 1 1/2" ID2 Wearing

- Evergreen Street
- Holland Drive
- Pearl Street
- Oakhurst Drive

FB modified w/Single seal of #8

- Limestone*
- Arlington Avenue
- Autumn Drive
- Boccee Drive
- Colonial Avenue
- Delason Avenue
- Dutchtown Road
- England Street
- Ferguson Avenue
- Grandview Boulevard
- Mechling Drive
- Milt Miller Road
- North Boundary Street
- Plateau Street
- Powdermill Road
- Scotland Avenue
- Shady Avenue
- Vista Drive

West Metzger Avenue

Double Seal of #8 Limestone

- Alhambra Drive
- Arlington Avenue
- Bramble Avenue
- Bryson Road
- Butler Road
- Crevar Drive
- Highland Avenue
- Loring Street
- Miller Street
- North Boundary Street
- Pierce Avenue
- Sawmill Run Road
- South Duffy Road
- South Eberhart Road
- South Woodlawn Road
- Township Line Road
- Willard Avenue
- Woodlawn Road

Citizens Police Academy

The 2nd Butler Township Citizen Police Academy ended on Tuesday, November 14, 2000, with 12 citizens completing the 11 week academy. The purpose of the academy is to create a better understanding between citizens and law enforcement through education.

Citizens from the community were given an opportunity to meet and learn from several Township Police Officers and guest speakers from agencies, such as Pennsylvania State Police, Butler County Sheriff's Department, and VOICE, which deals with domestic violence issues. They received tours of the Township Police station and equipment, the Butler County 9-1-1 Center, and the Butler County Prison. They were given an overview of the various Codes and Ordinances and participated in role-playing during simulated traffic stops and also fatal vision goggles. They were all certified in CPR. A 3rd Citizen Police Academy is being planned for the Fall of 2001.

Following are a few comments from the class:

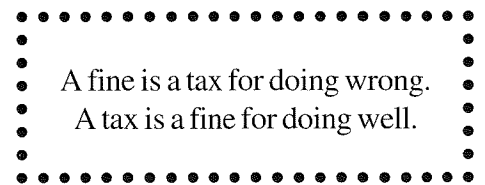
Excellent learning experience.

Well planned and presented.

Very interesting.

Really enjoyed this great program.

A pleasure to meet all the Township Police Officers.

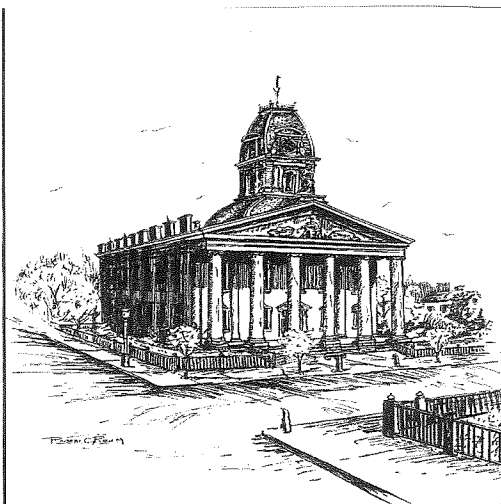


"A pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity, an optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."
Sir Winston Churchill



Christmas Gifts

The Butler Area Public Library announces the availability of reprints of the Robert C. Rehm landmark homes and business featured in their recent Bicentennial celebration. The Rehm family has granted permission to the Library to use these prints for a fund raising project. A collectable gift that will continue to give pleasure for year after year, 51 black and white prints are featured in a variety of presentations. Available are prints unmatted, matted and deluxe matting at a cost of \$15.00 to \$30.00. Also available is a commemorative booklet with thumbnail sketches at \$5.00 and an 8 x 11 format booklet for \$25.00. Order forms are available at the Library or by calling 287-1715.



Butler County Courthouse 1853

Holiday Shopping Tips

Many crimes can be prevented if you take simple steps to protect yourself and trust your instincts.

1. Acquire a habit of facing traffic when walking. This would help to prevent individuals from surprising you from behind.
2. Carry your handbag close to your body. Always keep your handbag secured. Don't leave your money, credit card, or wallet exposed.
3. When walking or shopping DON'T wear expensive, noticeable jewelry. Such items could make you a target for muggers.
4. Don't flash money or credit cards.
5. Avoid using automatic teller machines at night and at obscured locations.
6. Don't place a lot of packages in the trunk of your vehicle and reenter the mall to continue shopping. Call it a day or relocate your car. Individuals may be watching lots and targeting vehicles.
7. Try not to be the last to leave the shopping mall.
8. Have your keys in your hand when you go to your vehicle.
9. Always try to park in a well-lit area.
10. If you are planning on taking a trip, or parking in an extended parking area, never leave your garage door opener visibly displayed in your vehicle while at the mall.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!

Butler Township
6 Chesapeake Street
Lyndora, PA 16045

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