

# Stewartstown Borough Newsletter

April / May / June  
2003

## Springtime Community Events in Stewartstown Borough

### -Community Yard Sale

**Saturday, May 31st.** Permits are waived for this one day. Please note there is no rain date set for this event. If you plan to have a yard sale any day other than May 31st you will need to purchase a permit. Per Ordinance, a resident must purchase a permit, \$10.00 for the first yard sale and \$25.00 for the second in one calendar year. Each permit is good for two consecutive days. A fine will be assessed to residents who do not comply with this ordinance.

### -Street Cleaning

**Thursday, May 22nd and Friday, May 23rd,** have been confirmed as street cleaning days in our borough. Please park your vehicles in your driveway or use other off-street parking where available during these two days.

### - Large Trash Pick Up

**Saturday, June 7th,** is one of two dates set for our trash hauler to remove large trash items. Please note the following items which will not be picked up by the trash collector: concrete material; mounted tires; poles over 4 feet in length; paint/stains/chemical solvents; batteries or major car parts. Set all your items out Friday evening and the trash hauler will be out the next day to collect it. If by Sunday evening your items have not been collected call our office at 993-2963 ext. 280 and leave a message. Make sure you leave your name, address, and phone number.

We will contact the hauler Monday morning.



### - Voting

**Tuesday, May 20th.** Just around the corner is the Municipal Primary Election. If you are a borough resident and a registered voter you can vote at the borough building. Polls open at 7:00 am and close at 8:00 pm.



## 911 Indicators of Threats and Emergency Actions

### INDICATORS OF THREATS INVOLVING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD) AND

#### EMERGENCY ACTIONS

The following information is not all encompassing, and its applicability should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with local conditions, policies and procedures.

Chemical, biological and radiological material can be dispersed in the air we breath, the water we drink or on surfaces.

Chemical incidents are characterized by the rapid onset of medical symptoms (minutes to hours) and easily observed or radiological incident, the onset of symptoms requires days to weeks and there are typically few characteristic signatures.

In all cases, being alert to the following could assist law enforcement and emergency responders in evaluating potential threats.

#### Potential Indicators of WMD Threats or Incidents

Unusual packages or containers, especially those found in unlikely or sensitive locations, such as near HVAC or air intake systems.

Unusual powders or liquids/droplets/ mists/clouds, especially those found near air intake/HVAC systems.

Indications of tampering in targeted areas/equipment (i.e., locked ventilation/ HVAC systems, stocks of food, water supply).

Suspicious person(s) or activities, especially those involving sensitive locations within or around a building (well houses, water towers, telephone central offices, reservoirs, pump houses, etc.).

Surveillance of targeted areas, including but not limited to hotels, entertainment venues, subway systems, aircraft, water sources, office buildings and apartment buildings.

Theft of chemical products/equipment (i.e. pool chemicals, fertilizers, etc.). Dead animals/birds, fish or insects.

Unexplained/unusual odors. Smells may range from fruity/flowery to sharp/pungent, garlic/horseradish-like, bitter almonds, peach kernels, and new mown grass/hay (where no grass has been cut nearby).

Unusual/unscheduled spraying or discovery of spray devices or bottles.

#### Protective Measures

Maintain a heightened sense of awareness.

Place an increased emphasis on the security of immediate surroundings.

Conduct periodic inspections of building facilities and HVAC systems for potential indicators/irregularities.

Review emergency operations and evacuation plans/procedures for all locations/organizations to ensure that plans are up to date.

Promptly report suspicious activities to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

#### Emergency Procedures - Potential Threat Identified/Confirmed

Maintain a safe distance/evacuate area (if outside move to an upwind location and if inside keep outside doors/windows closed).

Call your local 911 (law enforcement and public safety personnel) after reaching a safe area.

Do not handle or disturb suspicious objects.

Remove possibly contaminated external clothing (including hats, shoes, gloves).

Follow emergency operations plans/instructions from emergency response personnel. Stewartstown Emergency Management can be contacted at 993-2963 ext 285.

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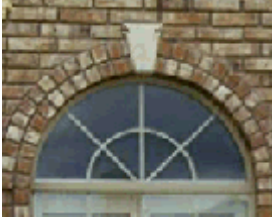
### Special Points of

#### Interest.

- Join your neighbors for Bingo Night at Eureka Fire Department. Every Thursday night at 7:00pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.
- Reminder—Don't forget to send in your "Fire" Donation Drive to Eureka Volunteer Fire & Ambulance Co.
- Second Annual Basket Bingo, Saturday, April 5th at Eureka Vol. Fire & Ambulance Co.

Do you know why

Pennsylvania is called the Keystone state?



A "keystone" is the central, wedge-shaped stone in an arch, which holds all the other stones in place.

Geographically, Pennsylvania was said to be "the keystone in the federal union."

However, Pennsylvania was also a keystone in the development of the United States

## Ordinance Reminders

All ordinances can be viewed in their entirety at the Borough Office. Copies may be purchased.



Per Ordinance 1996-001 & 1994-003

**Weeds & Grasses:** All weeds & grasses are not allowed to grow above six inches (6") in height. In addition, the following weeds are not allowed to grow regardless of height: Marijuana, Chicory, Succory, Blue Daisy, Canadian Thistle, Multiflora Rose and Johnson Grass.

Per Ordinance 2001-005—

**Animal Defecation (Pooper Scooper):** It is the duty of the owner of any animal traversing upon public or private property other than property owned by the animal's owner to immediately remove any feces left behind by such animal. The feces is required to be carried away for disposal in a toilet or placed in a non-leaking container for deposit in a trash can or litter receptacle.



Per Ordinance 1990-003

**Abandoned Vehicles:** Abandoned vehicles are considered a nuisance in Stewartstown and violation of the nuisance ordinance is considered a criminal offence. A vehicle is considered abandoned if it does not have a current license plate, safety inspection sticker and a certificate of insurance. In addition, a vehicle that does not have an engine or cannot move on its own power can be considered an abandoned vehicle.

Per

Ordinance 1996-003

**House**

**Numbers:**

Borough residents are required to have house numbers on homes. House numbers must be at least three inches (3") in height and in contrasting colors so emergency personnel can easily find and identify the location.



## New Ordinances

Ordinance 2003-001—Amended the zoning ordinance regulating temporary signs for commercial advertising and non-profit use including location, size, and duration of time the sign may be displayed.

Ordinance 2003-002—Prohibits the use of skateboards on public sidewalks, lots of commercial businesses, and other designated areas.

Ordinance 2003-003—Replaces Ordinance No. 1991-004 & 05 specifying where sidewalks are to be installed, when existing sidewalks should be grandfathered, etc.

## Leak detection – How Important is it?

Leaks are a continual burden for water systems. Most cities have water pipes that could be up to 100 yrs of age and can always be the source of the unexpected large leak. In fact, this is such a problem for utilities that the Pennsylvania legislature passed legislation in 1996 that allows public water utilities to recapture associated capital costs. The Distribution System Infrastructure Charge (DSIC) allows a return on equity and depreciation for certain capital improvements (including pipe and hydrant rehabilitation) through a surcharge on customers' bills. This can be done without a formal rate request to the Public Utility Commission (PUC). The York Water Company (YWC) DSIC recently increased from 0.26 percent to 0.84 percent of a customers bill.

Ways to minimize system leaks are to try to detect and fix them and to replace water lines beyond repair. In Stewartstown, the Stewartstown Borough Authority is planning to install new water lines in Fulton Avenue, Ovelton Avenue, and Winters Avenue over the next five years. With these pipe replacements, nearly all of the pipes in the system will be less than 20 yrs old. This is rather unusual for water systems nationwide and we are thankful to be in this position. After a large undetected leak in 2001, the Borough purchased a new leak detection device. This unit is portable and operator-friendly and has allowed the Borough operators to more routinely check for leaks. It can be used above-ground or below grade and has features to filter out unwanted noises. Also, the battery allows for up to 40 hrs of continuous use. With this unit, about four leaks have been found and repaired in a more timely fashion than simply guessing where a leak might have occurred. The Borough operators have also demonstrated this unit to interested customers. If interested in seeing the unit, please call the Borough office.

As a side point for information to our customers, according to the PUC, the YWC requested an increase to their rates so that the average annual residential bill for a repumping system would increase from \$286 to \$334, based on 53,820 gallons used per year. The PUC voted on February 20, 2003 to suspend and investigate YWC's request. The Authority purchases water via a repump system and would see a corresponding increase in our bills to the YWC. This does not necessarily mean that customers of the Authority will pay increased rates. Stewartstown water rates are determined by the Authority taking into account all operational (including any additional costs of YWC water) and capital expenses. Rate determinations have traditionally been done near the end of the year as budgets are prepared.



## Stewartstown Police Department

Stewartstown Borough Police Department welcomes a new officer. Marie Clark started in February and is the department's third officer. Ms. Clark was born in Catonsville, Maryland, graduated from Catonsville Senior High School and moved to Fawn Grove in 2001. She worked for the MD Transportation Authority Police for 16 years and has been a member of the Arbutus Volunteer Fire Department for 20 years holding several administrative positions as well as Firefighter, EMT, and Rescue Specialist. She recently joined the Citizen's Volunteer Fire Company in Fawn Grove to become more active in the community. When you see Officer Clark, give her a warm welcome!

### Police Department Staff

Chief Charles Reid II  
 Officer Jason Test—Officer Larry Bailets  
 Officer Marie Clark  
 Police Secretary, Mary Stanley

### Know Your Hand Signals



Right turn

Left turn



Right turn alternative

Stop

### Gearing Up for Bike Safety

It's time to get the bikes back out! Reminder: You can register your bike with the Police Dept. for only \$1.00. If interested just stop by and fill out a registration card or call 993-5308 for further information.

Learn more about bike safety.

Go to:

[www.kidshealth.org/teen/safety/safebasics/bike\\_safety](http://www.kidshealth.org/teen/safety/safebasics/bike_safety)



### Finding the Right Bike for You

When sitting on the bike, you should be able to just about fully extend your legs to reach the pedals. Be sure there is about 1 to 3 inches of space between your body and the cross bar (or the top bar on boy's bikes when you are standing flat-footed on the ground straddling the cross bar) - you'll be thankful you have that space if you need to unexpectedly jump off the seat. If you're still growing, you'll want to make sure that your bike's seat post and handlebars can be raised to adjust to your new height.

### Be a Helmet Head

Bicycle helmets are a matter of life and death—wearing one is not optional. It is a law in our state that all children under the age of 12 wear a helmet and good common sense for all others too. Your head should always be protected when you are biking. Three out of four bike accidents involve an injury to the head and a crash could mean permanent brain damage or death for a person who doesn't wear one while riding. Today's helmets are lightweight and comfortable. Only buy a helmet if it contains either a CPSC or Snell sticker. The Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standards set by the U. S. Gov't. were introduced in 1999. If your helmet was made before 1999, it should be replaced. Make sure your helmet has the correct fit and adjustments. After taking a serious hit, helmets lose their capacity to absorb shock and should be replaced immediately.

### Bike Maintenance

Tip: Keep your bike indoors, especially on rainy days. This will help keep your chain rust-free.

Check the following on a regular basis:

- Tire air pressure
- Height of seat
- Brakes
- Chain (for grease & tightness)

### Animal Control Service

**Contacting the Animal Control Officer:** To report a stray animal you should contact the Borough's Animal Control Officer, Terry Hemler/ACS 717-235-6213. If you think your animal may have been picked up by the Animal Control Officer please call Terry Hemler or the Red Lion Animal Rescue League 717-244-9747.



**Identification Tags:** All dogs, cats and other common household pets are now required to wear an identification tag indicating the owners name, address and phone number. In addition, as required by Pennsylvania State law, all dogs must be wearing a valid dog license and rabies vaccination tag. All cats must be wearing a current and valid rabies tag. Without these identification tags our Animal Control Officer may not be able to return your pet to you. The Animal Control officers when contacted will have the authority to seize any animal that is not properly tagged and found to be running at large.

### Curb Side Recycling



Things to know: Borough residents have curb side recycling service. It is part of your trash removal service every Tuesday. A separate trash truck will be around to pick it up. You do not need to sort your recyclables. If you do not have a green recycling bin, stop by our office and we will provide one for you. If you can not make it to our office during business hours, please let us know and we can bring one to you. **What can be recycled?** Aluminum cans, steel cans, plastic bottles and containers with a #1 or #2 indicated on them, newspapers, all clear green or brown glass bottles, and brown cardboard.

**What cannot be recycled?** Cereal boxes, salad/deli trays, TV dinner trays, pie plates or food tubes.

The best thing about recycling next to saving the environment is that the more you recycle the more grant money the borough receives which helps to keep the cost of your trash removal down.

### Tax Information

Stewartstown Borough has an elected Tax Collector. You will receive tax bills for the borough tax, county tax, and school tax from our elected Tax Collector. The taxes are then processed and sent to the proper taxing authority, i.e. borough taxes will be sent to our borough office and county tax will be sent to York County, etc.

If you have not received any information regarding Real Estate and Per Capita taxes contact our Tax Collector. Her name is Sandra Mitchell and her home telephone number is 993-6334. All taxes should be mailed to her at 11 Springwood Avenue.



**Stewartstown Borough**  
**6 N. Main Street, Suite A**  
**Stewartstown, PA 17363**

Phone: 717-993-2963  
 Fax: 717-993-2131  
 Police Department - 717-993-5308  
 Email: [office@stewartstown.org](mailto:office@stewartstown.org)

Utility Billing Ext.- 202  
 General Questions Ext.- 201  
 Recreation Board Ext.- 290  
 Missed Trash Service Ext.- 280  
 Emergency Water/Sewer Ext.- 204

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Fri. 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

**Borough Council:**

Wilberetta Gibbs—President  
 Guy Hook—Vice President  
 Frank Paules, Richard Nixon, Marsha England,  
 Jeff Bruening, and Mildred Pomraning

**Mayor Richard Hall**

Authority Chairman—Jeff Grow  
 Zoning Hearing Board Chairman—Bonner Smith  
 Civil Service Commission Chairman—Harry Lytle  
 Planning Commission Chairperson—Lona Full

**Borough Staff:**

Susan Grow—Sec./Treasurer  
 Kelli Waltemire—Billing Clerk  
 Melissa Matthews—Asst. Secretary  
 Robert Hunt—Director of Public Works  
 Ira Walker Jr.—Water Operator  
 Dennis "Niko" Hulslander—Asst. Water Operator  
 Tracy Baldwin—Sewer Operator  
 Wayne Bush—Asst. Sewer Operator

**BULK RATE**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
**STEWARTSTOWN PA 17363**  
**PERMIT NO. 26**

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.stewartstown.org](http://www.stewartstown.org)  
[www.stewartstown.org/police](http://www.stewartstown.org/police)

## Calendar of Meeting Dates



|   | <b>COMMITTEE MEETINGS</b>   | <b>START TIME</b>             | <b>DATES</b>             |
|---|---|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Council :</b> Apr. 7, May 5, Jun. 2<br>Meetings held— first Monday of each month at 7:30 pm                          | <b>Personnel Committee</b><br><b>Police &amp; Public Safety Committee</b>   | 7:00 pm<br>7:30 pm            | Apr. 14, May 12, Jun. 9  |
| <b>Sewer &amp; Water Authority:</b> Apr. 16, May 21, Jun. 18<br>Meetings held— third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm | <b>Junior Council Meeting</b><br><b>Public Property, Refuse, and</b><br><b>Street Lights, Committee</b><br><b>Streets, Roads, &amp; Storm Water</b> | 6:30 pm<br>7:00 pm<br>7:30 pm | Apr. 21 May 19, Jun. 16  |
| <b>Planning Commission:</b> Apr. 15, May 20, Jun. 17<br>Meetings held— third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm           | <b>Special Action/Newsletter Comm.</b><br><b>Sewer &amp; Water Committee</b>  | 7:00 pm<br>7:30 pm            | Apr. 28, May 27, Jun. 23 |



All meetings are held at the Borough Hall Building located at 6 N. Main Street in Stewartstown. Meeting dates and times can also be found on our web page. All meetings are open to the public. If you wish to speak at a meeting, call ahead of time to be placed on the agenda. If you leave a message, make sure you provide your name, address and phone number in case we need to contact you if a meeting is canceled or we need further information. Also indicate the issues you wish to discuss.

