

BOROUGH OF KENHORST SUMMER/FALL 2010 NEWSLETTER

610-777-7327, 339 S. Kenhorst Blvd., Kenhorst, PA 19607

kenhorstborohall@comcast.net, www.co.berks.pa.us/kenhorst

SUMMER PLAYGROUND FUN!

This year's Playground program hosted approximately 50 children. They enjoyed planned activities including visits from Reptile Canyon and Earth Rhythms, field trips to the Kenhorst Volunteer Fire Co. and Brecknock Orchard, weekly swimming at Ken-Grill pool and a kickball tourney sponsored by Berks Co. Parks & Recreation. Many thanks to our Playground Leaders for a successful year: Joelle Harakel, Alex Krick, and Keith Kuriger. Special congrats to Alex Krick who won the 2010 Favorite Playground Leader Award presented by a representative of the Berks Parks Department!



Summer playground campers visited the Kenhorst Volunteer Fire Department and received information on fire safety.



Above - Happy Campers! Kenhorst Playground Leaders, Joelle Harakel, Alex Krick and Keith Kuriger are joined by Parks and Recreation Committee Chairperson, Jay Ibach and the 2010 playground participants.



~ IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE ~

SATURDAY TAX COLLECTION IN AUGUST HAS CHANGED TO SATURDAY, AUGUST 21 FROM 9:30 A.M. TO NOON. THE TAX OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 2010



~ IMPORTANT TRASH NOTICE ~

Due to observance of the Labor Day holiday on Monday September 6, 2010, **our trash and recycling day for that week will be moved back one day to Wednesday, September 8, 2010.** The regular Tuesday trash/recycling schedule will resume its schedule the following week (Tuesday, September 14th, 2010). Please contact the Borough Office with any questions.

! NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH!

Borough Council is looking for interested residents who are willing to participate on a Neighborhood Crime Watch Committee. Please contact Borough Hall to sign up. You will be notified when a committee meeting is scheduled. Meanwhile, if you witness a crime or notice suspicious persons or activities occurring in your neighborhood, for your safety, DO NOT become involved or confrontational; however, you are urged to immediately contact 911.

Reading Police Phone Numbers:

Emergency Services 9-1-1

Non-emergency service 610-655-6111

Information & minor reports 610-655-6116

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FROM THE MANAGER'S DESK – By Jeri Diesinger

It is already August and the start of a new school year is just around the corner. I hope that everyone has survived the record heat and has had a great summer! Working closely with Council committees, Borough Secretary/Treasurer, Eileen Becker and our engineers, we are continuing our existing programs that televise and repair sanitary sewer lines, and identify and prioritize maintenance of our streets and stormwater systems. In addition, Council is getting ready to take a first look at next year's preliminary draft budget.

In the Spring 2010 edition of the newsletter, we introduced many new faces at Borough Hall. In this edition, we want to extend a warm welcome to another new face. Jo Ann Gottschall, was hired in June as a part-time Administrative Assistant. Jo Ann works three mornings per week and is cross training in administrative duties with Eileen to better serve the residents of our Borough.

Because of the very hot weather experienced this year, the grass grew a bit more slowly during some weeks of the mowing season and our Public Works department found that they did not have to tend the Borough properties as often. Therefore, Dwayne Hart and Mike Yost had time to accomplish several important safety tasks to ready the Borough for the upcoming winter months. They: 1) painted storm inlet markers and fire hydrant markers on area roads so that fire and municipal personnel can locate and clear these items in a winter storm; 2) stenciled

“no dumping – drains to creek” on catch basins – a requirement of our stormwater permit; and, 3) repainted stop blocks and cross walks at various intersections.

Kenhorst is actively participating in the Southeastern Pennsylvania Stormwater Coalition to monitor new PADEP permit compliance requirements. Proposed stormwater permit renewal obligations include the refitting of existing stormwater facilities with specially designed catch basins and amending current ordinances which could cost the Borough well over \$200,000.

The Borough received an extension of one year on a grant received in 2009 to be used for new playground equipment. Currently, the Parks and Playground Committee is researching how best to utilize the approximately \$5,400 of unspent funds remaining of the original \$10,000 grant.

Thanks to an application submitted to the County in 2008 by the Borough's previous administration, the Office of Community Development has just obligated funds in the amount of \$30,000 to continue construction of curb ramps at various locations within the Borough under the County's Community Development Block Grant Program.



Large Trash Items for Pick Up – Residents are required to purchase a “large item sticker” for \$10 at Borough Hall to affix to your bulk items on trash day. Remember that the trash hauler will not pick up the bulk item unless it has an official sticker attached.

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LEASH LAWS

Borough laws prohibit the running at large of dogs, cats or other pets upon public streets, alleys or sidewalks or upon the property of another, including the property of the Borough or of any school district. The law requires the removal and disposal of fecal matter of dogs, cats and pets in a sanitary manner and does not allow fecal matter to accumulate or remain on property owned or occupied by such person for a period in excess of twenty-four (24) hours [Ordinance #353, (1978)].

Owners of leashed or unleashed animals shall be responsible immediately for the removal and disposal of fecal matter deposited by their animal anywhere in the Borough of Kenhorst. No dog or other domesticated animal or any non-domesticated animal shall be allowed to make any loud or harsh noise or disturbance which shall interfere with or deprive the peace, quiet, rest or sleep of any person within the Borough [Ordinance #374 (1984)].



POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS -

The Reading Police Department and Kenhorst Borough are coordinating efforts to update the Alarm Device database of properties having installed Burglary, Robbery, Fire and/or Carbon Monoxide alarms. Included in this newsletter mailing is an application for all Alarm Device users

to complete and return with appropriate fee to Borough Hall by August 31, 2010.

Once the database is updated, each Alarm Device owner will be mailed a copy of the Alarm Device Ordinance, an Alarm Device permit and fee schedule for false alarms. Note that each Alarm Device permit issued this year will be effective from September 2010 until December 31, 2011.



RECYCLING

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Kenhorst encourages our residents and local businesses to recycle. The Borough receives funding from the Commonwealth based on the amount of recycled materials it reports which helps keep collection costs low and helps the environment by reusing materials. The following items are recycled in the Borough:

- **Glass:** Clear, green, brown
- **Steel and Aluminum Cans**
- **Plastic:** All plastic in a bottled form, (PETE + HDPE #1 thru # 7)
- **Newspaper/Magazines/Catalogs and Junk Mail** - Place all in a paper bag.
- **Cardboard:** Bundle in lengths less than 18 in. x 18 in. x 24 in.

The Berks County Solid Waste Authority is sponsoring a Fall Recycling event on the following dates at First Energy Stadium:

Sept 24 and 25th – Electronic Wastes

October 2nd – Pharmaceutical Wastes

October 9th – Tires and Paper Shredding

October 16th – Household Hazardous Wastes

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FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS!

The Kenhorst Volunteer Fire Company would like to thank everyone for supporting our 42nd Annual Chicken Barbeque held at the Fire House on Sunday, August 1st. Over 1100 dinners were sold, making this another successful year – thank you!!!

The KVFC is always in need of volunteers. If you would like to learn the skills of fire fighting and give back to your community, please contact the Fire Chief, Roger Weidenheimer.

LABOR DAY - The Borough Office will be closed Monday, September 6th, 2010 in observance of Labor Day.

!!THINK SAFETY FIRST!!

The Borough has been notified by the local PEMA office of the potential for homemade bottle bombs.

Call 911

- If you find a soda or other type of bottle with liquid in it - *do not touch it*
- If the bottle shows signs of swelling or melting in any way – *do not touch it*

It may sound silly or a misuse of our Police protection, but it is important not to handle these devices because there is potential for explosion causing severe damage or injury.

~ DATES TO REMEMBER ~

Friday, August 20, 2010 - 2nd Quarter Sewer/Refuse Bills Due

Saturday, August 21, 2010 Tax Collection-
The Tax Collector will hold office hours from 9:30AM-12PM Sat. 8/21 **instead of** Sat. 8/28.

Tuesday, August 31, 2010 - Pre-Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 2, 2010 - Council Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, September 6, 2010 - Labor Day
Borough Offices will be closed.

Wednesday, September 8, 2010 - Trash/Recycling Pickup – instead of Tuesday, 9/7, due to Labor Day Holiday.

Saturdays, September 24th – October 16, 2010 – County Hazardous Waste/Recycling Collection Event

October - 3rd Quarter Sewer/Refuse Bills will be mailed mid October.

Halloween Observance – Sunday, October 31, 2010 from 6 to 9PM.

November 1 – 30th – Borough Fall Leaf Collection

Tuesday, November 2nd, 2010 - Election Day - Don't forget to vote!! As usual, residents voting at the Borough Hall building should access the voting area via the Liberty Avenue entrance.

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